JUMBO SIZE

CLASSIC HORROR TALES

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

NOV. 1976

$2.00

HOUSE OF BLOOD
A Nightmare of Bloody Shock

THE VAMPIRE FLIES
The Eerie Haunt of Death

THE THING
An Escape From The Thing

THE SUPERNATURAL
Face-To-Face With Death

SATAN'S DEMON
Inside The Devil's Domain

THE DEAD DEMONS
The Dead Rise Up

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Honor House Dept. 472WF55 **Lynbrook, NY 11563**

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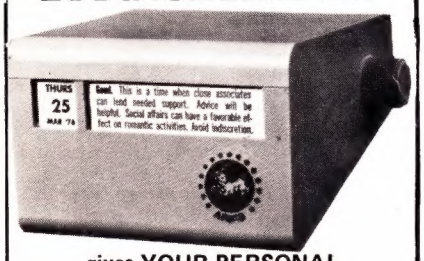
"ZODIACALENDAR"



gives YOUR PERSONAL DAILY HOROSCOPE MESSAGE

as You Advance the Date

with FREE REFILL through Dec. 1977

Just turn the dial each day and, as you set the date, read your horoscope for the day. Avoid pitfalls and take advantage of strong indications as described in this personal horoscope message. "Zodiacalendar" is perfect for home, office, or as a cherished gift. It is made of bamboo colored, high impact styrene, and is embossed in gold with your sign of the Zodiac. Order now and get a FREE 1977 refill in addition to the full year of 1976. Put yourself in touch with your stars now. Send only $4.95 plus 60¢ for postage and handling and we will rush your order without delay. IMPORTANT: SEND THE SIGN OF THE ZODIAC OR THE DATE OF BIRTH OF THE PERSON WHO IS TO USE THE "ZODIACALENDAR".

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22 CAL. PELLET FIRING "STINGER AUTOMATIC"

50-22 Cal. Pellets Free.

only $1.69

Not sold in NY City

Looks and feels like a real Colt "45" automatic fully 6 inches long — 4 inches high. Fires 22 cal. pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger. Great for fast action, combat type target practice. **FREE** supply of targets and 50 reusable 22 cal. pellets. Money back if not satisfied. Just send $1.69 plus **50c** for postage and handling. NY state residents state age

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5" When Closed

- Opens instantly
- Sharp and Tough
- Stainless Steel Blade

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Flips open instantly and locks automatically to prevent accidental closing. Razor sharp tough stainless steel blade for reliable use and hard, long service. Money back in 5 days if not satisfied. Send $2.75 plus 35c to cover postage and handling.

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Dept. 472STS55

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and SILENCER

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only $1.98

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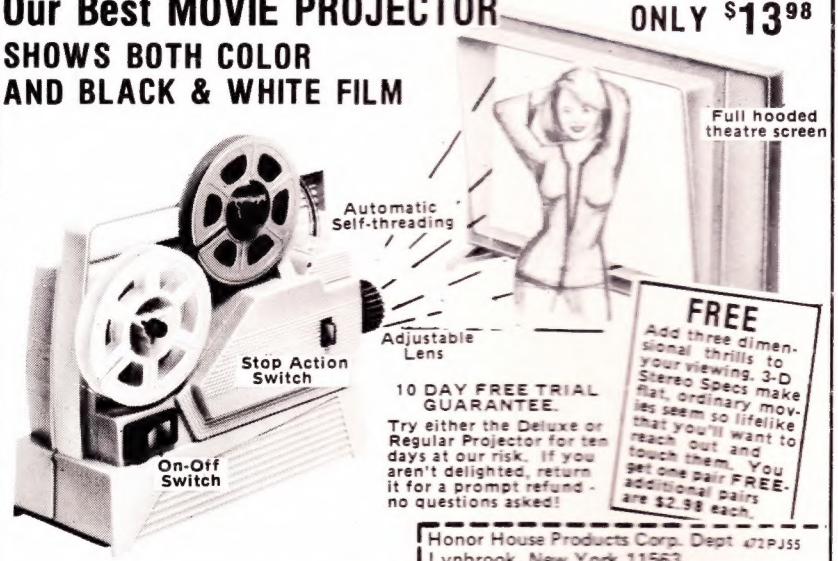
Our Best MOVIE PROJECTOR

ONLY $13.98

SHOWS BOTH COLOR AND BLACK & WHITE FILM



10 DAY FREE TRIAL GUARANTEE.

Try either the Deluxe or Regular Projector for ten days at our risk. If you aren't delighted, return it for a prompt refund - no questions asked!

FREE

Add three dimensional thrills to your viewing. 3-D Stereo Specs make flat, ordinary movies seem so lifelike that you'll want to reach out and touch them. You get one pair FREE - additional pairs are $2.98 each.

- **Luminous, hooded screen at no extra charge.**
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- **Miracle film self-threader.**
- **Stop action switch for frame by frame enjoyment.**
- **Rugged construction for long life.**

This deluxe 8MM home movie projector has many features that you might expect to find only in projectors costing many times more. It's fully battery operated for complete portability and comes with its own hooded screen to let you see movies even in broad daylight. The built in film threader takes the start of the film and automatically attaches it to the take up reel. Even has a stop action switch to let pinpoint the scenes you especially want to enjoy. This rugged long-lasting projector is only $13.98 (batteries not included).

Honor House Products Corp. Dept 472PJ55
Lynbrook, New York 11563

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☐ The deluxe projector. I enclose $13.98 plus $1 for postage and handling.

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☐ Send the ☐ Deluxe, or ☐ Regular (check your choice) COD. I enclose $1 deposit and will pay postman the balance plus COD charges.

☐ Send additional STEREO SPECS at $2.98 (Fill in amount desired).

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CITY _____ STATE _____
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CLASSIC HORROR TALES

NOV. 1976 Volume 7 Number 4

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JUBIL-SCAN 2014

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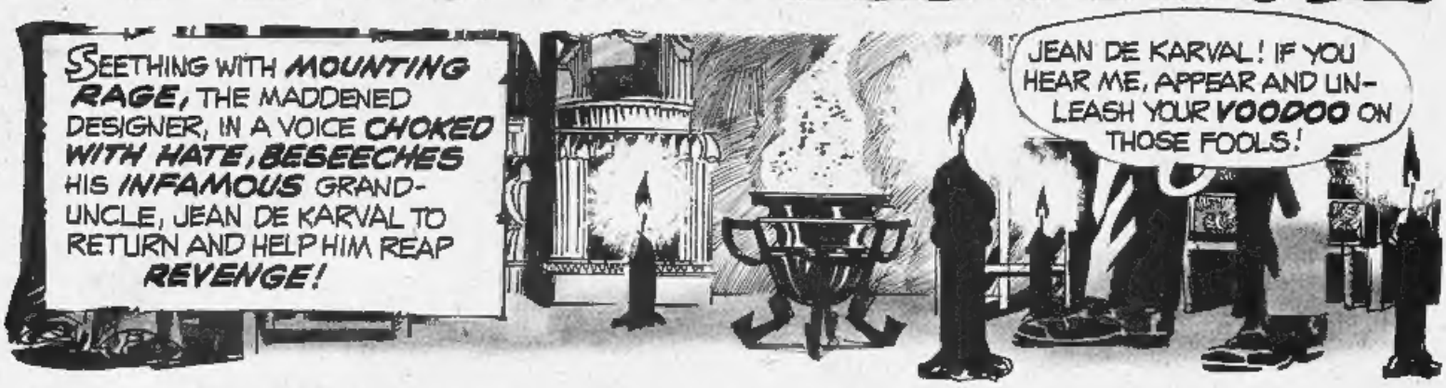
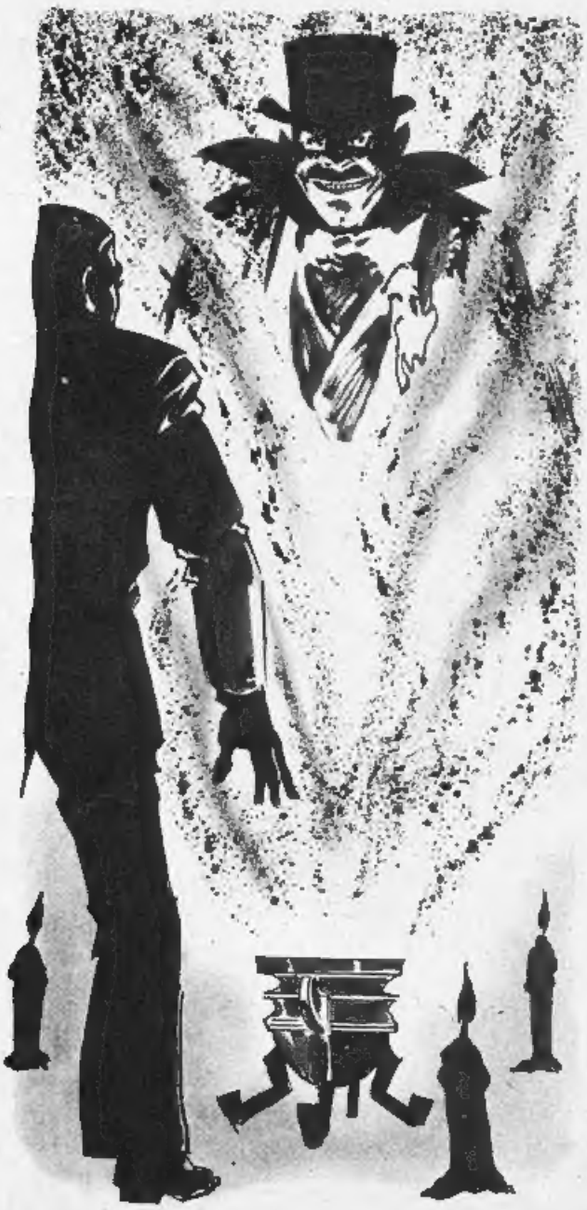
STAGE OF HORROR

WHEN THE FRENCH OCCUPIED THE WEST INDIES IN THE 18TH CENTURY, THEY WERE FORCED TO EMPLOY ***WITCH-CRAFT*** TO GAIN DOMINATION OVER THE SAVAGES. ONE OF THE CHIEF PRACTITIONERS OF THE ***DEVILISH ART*** WAS JEAN DE KARVAL...GREAT GRAND-UNCLE OF MAURICE DE KARVAL, THE DESIGNER OF BRILLIANT STAGE SETTINGS...

MR. DE KARVAL! PLEASE! YOU'RE DISRUPTING REHEARSAL AND UPSETTING MY CAST!

BAH! THOMAS MELVILLE IS NOT FIT TO PERFORM BEFORE THE SETTINGS OF THE GREAT MAURICE DE KARVAL!...ADIEU!


SEETHING WITH MOUNTING RAGE, THE MADDENED DESIGNER, IN A VOICE CHOKED WITH HATE, BESEECHES HIS INFAMOUS GRAND-UNCLE, JEAN DE KARVAL TO RETURN AND HELP HIM REAP REVENGE!
JEAN DE KARVAL! IF YOU HEAR ME, APPEAR AND UNLEASH YOUR VOODOO ON THOSE FOOLS!



THE DESIGNER'S CRAZED STARE IS RIVETED UPON HIS GRAND-UNCLE WHO HAS COME INTO VIEW...

LISTEN CLOSELY AND KNOW YOUR REVENGE!

THE FIENDISH SPIRIT SHOWS MAURICE HOW TO CONSTRUCT A DOLL-LIKE IMAGE OF ACTOR THOMAS MELVILLE!
THAT'S IT! YOU HAVE THE HAIR! NOW THE STRING!

AND NOW PULL IT TIGHT!

UNAWARE THAT HIS VERY EXIST-ENCE IS BEING CHALLENGED, THOMAS MELVILLE GAZES PLACIDLY OUT HIS WINDOW AT TWO PAINTERS ON A SCAFFOLD....WHEN SUDDENLY...

THE ROPE ATTACHED TO THE SCAFFOLD PULLEY SEEMINGLY COMES ALIVE AND COILS ABOUT HIS NECK...

REHEARSALS CONTINUE, HOWEVER, AND THE STINGING LASH OF DE KARYAL'S WRATH IS FELT BY CLARICE HART, THE LEADING LADY....
YOU CALL YOURSELF AN ACTRESS! I GLORIFY YOU WITH INCOMPARABLE SETTINGS AND THIS IS YOUR THANKS!

CLARICE HART, IS IT! HEED ME NOW, OR YOU WILL BECOME THE LATE CLARICE HART!

His WARPED BRAIN CRACKED WITH RAGE, THE DESIGNER AGAIN SUMMONED THE WITCH DOCTOR...

JEAN DE KARVAL INSTRUCTS THE DESIGNER TO EMPLOY A MODEL TRAIN TO BE.....THE INSTRUMENT OF DEATH!
VERY GOOD, MAURICE.... NOW RUN THE TRAIN OVER THE WOMAN!

ON A SUBWAY STATION, IN THE CITY, CLARICE HART HAS A SUDDEN DIZZY SPELL....

AAAAIIEEEE.....!!

HEE-HEE--HEE---REVENGE!

DE KARVAL'S SET WASTED IN OPENING LAST NIGHT!
DESTINED TO FAIL!!
POOR DIRECTING PARTLY RESPONSIB

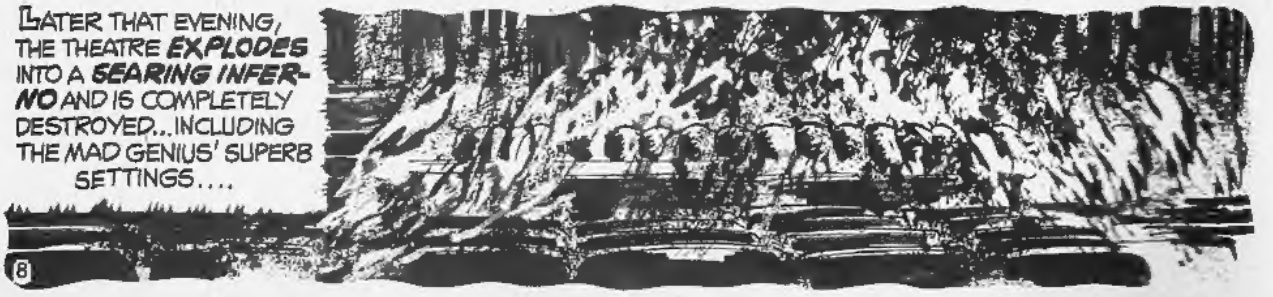
AGAIN, THE DESIGNER TURNS TO HIS DREADED VOODOO WITCHCRAFT...
YOU HAVE BETRAYED MY MAGNIFICENT SETS WITH YOUR FAILURE, ELLSWORTH! NOW YOU MUST PAY!!

A MORNING REHEARSAL HAS BEEN CALLED TO SALVAGE THE PLAY. AND AS ELLSWORTH DIRECTS HIS CAST, MAURICE DE KARVAL OBSERVES HIS EVERY MOTION WITH HATE....

AS DEATH IN ALL ITS NAKED VIOLENCE STRIKES...
SRAK!
ELLSWORTH! LOOK OUT!

...AND THE SOURCE OF LIGHT IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE DELIVERER OF DOOM...

MY GLORIOUS MASTERPIECES! NOT TO BE SEEN BY THE MULTITUDES WHO SHOULD BOW THEIR HEADS IN YOUR PRESENCE! YOUR TRAGEDY HAS BEEN AVENGED!


LATER THAT EVENING, THE THEATRE EXPLODES INTO A SEARING INFERNO AND IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED...INCLUDING THE MAD GENIUS' SUPERB SETTINGS....

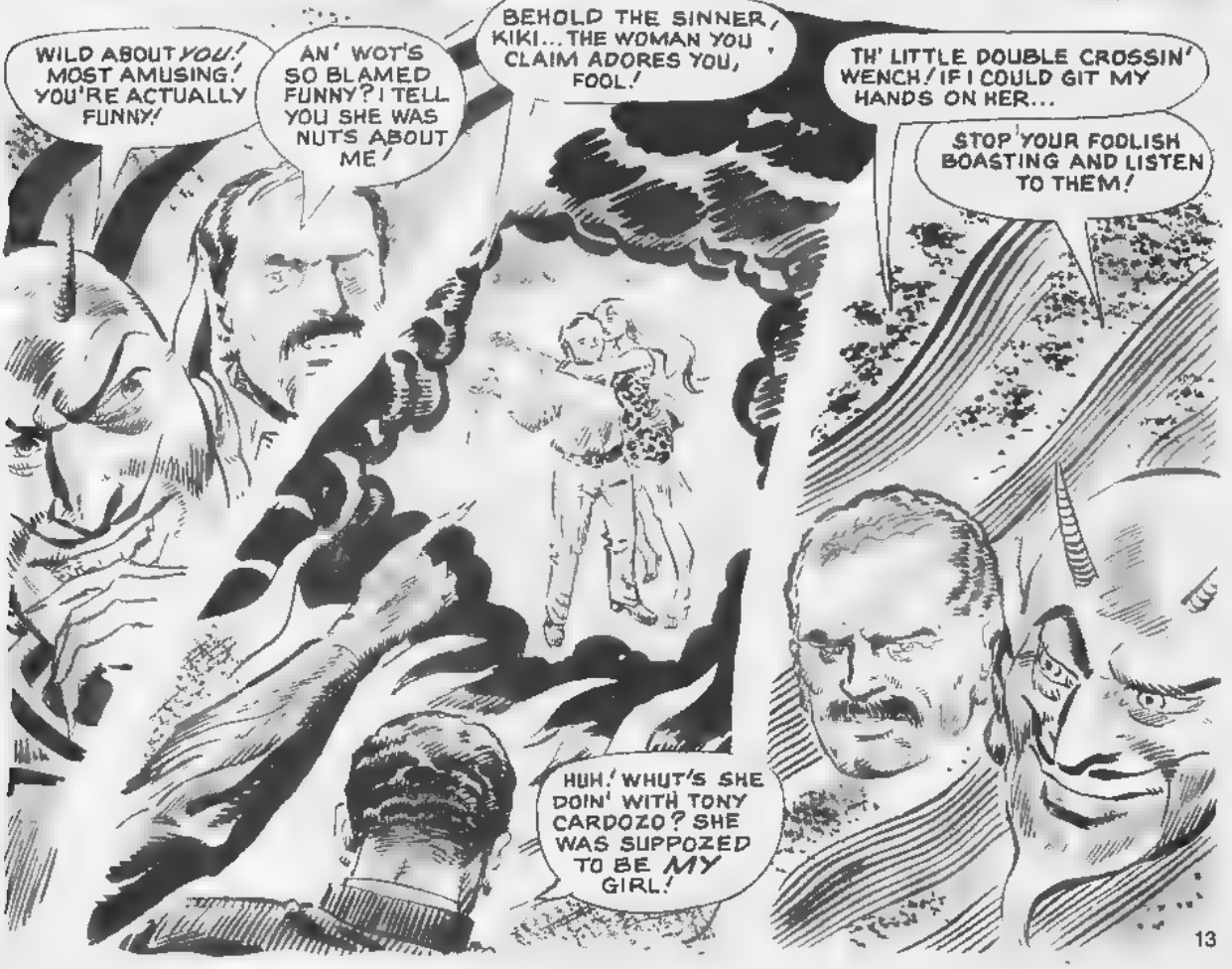
RETURNING TO HIS STUDIO, COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THE HOLOCAUST THAT DEMOLISHED THE THEATRE, DE KARVAL DELIGHTS OVE THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF HIS ***RETRIBUTION!***

Satan's DEMON

WHA'-? GIMME A TOMMYGUN, SOMEBODY! I'M GOIN' RAT HUNTIN' FER A RAT NAMED TONY CARDOZO!
BOOM.
DON'T MOVE! DON'T NOBODY MOVE!
EVERYBODY DIE! THE WHOLE CARDOZO MOB WIPED OUT AT ONE STROKE! HA-HA! NOBODY WILL DARE BUCK JOHNNIE GROTZ FROM NOW ON!
STRANGE...NO BLOOD! WHERE'S THE BLOOD! HUH... WAX DUMMIES!
OH, THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF BLOOD, JOHNNIE
TONY! AGGHH-HHH!
YOUR BLOOD!
EVERYTHING WENT BLACK FOR THE COCKY GANGMAN WHO HAD BOASTED HE WAS GOING PLACES!

JOHNNIE GROTZ, BIG SHOT! HE LOOKS JUST LIKE ANY OTHER DEAD RAT!
GET SOME WEIGHTS... TOSS HIM IN THE RIVER... WHILE I FRAME ME UP SOME ALIBI THAT'LL STICK!
JOHNNIE BLINKED HIS EYES, THERE WAS A STRANGE HUMMING IN HIS EARS! THEN HE HEARD THE WILD SCREAMS...
WHERE AM I DRIFTIN'?
HIS FEET STRUCK ROCK! HIS VISION CLEARED, AND WHEN HE SAW WHAT HE SAW, HE RE-GRETTED THAT HE COULD SEE AT ALL!
WHAT KINDUVA CRAZY DUMP IS THIS? WHAT'RE THOSE THINGS? WHERE IN BLAZES AM I?
THE EXPLANATION STABBED AT HIS CONSCIOUSNESS! HE FOUGHT IT OFF IN DREAD PANIC, BUT THE ANSWER CROWDED TAUNTINGLY BACK...
LOOK! A NEW ONE! LET ME AT HIM!
I SAW HIM FIRST! HE'S MINE!
THE ONE THAT GETS HIM FIRST CAN HAVE HIM! HEE-HEE!
THAT'S IT! HELL! I'M IN HELL!
JOHNNIE RAN AS FAST AS HIS FEET COULD CARRY HIM!... HOPELESSLY AT-TEMPTING TO OUTDISTANCE THE FIENDS OF HELL!

CLOVEN HOOVES! OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE TRUE! IT MUSTN'T BE!
WELCOME, JOHNNIE GROTZ - KILLER, THIEF AND LIAR! I'VE BEEN WAITING SOME TIME FOR YOU TO SHOW UP AT THIS ADDRESS!
YIIIIEE!
TERROR GRIPPED JOHNNIE AS HE LISTENED TO THE DEVILS TAUNTING VOICE... BUT STILL JOHNNIE WAS JOHNNIE...
I WOULD HAVE THIS LUCK, JUST WHEN A CLASSY BABE LIKE KIKI GOES WILD FOR ME!


WILD ABOUT YOU! MOST AMUSING! YOU'RE ACTUALLY FUNNY!
AN' WOT'S SO BLAMED FUNNY? I TELL YOU SHE WAS NUTS ABOUT ME!
BEHOLD THE SINNER, KIKI... THE WOMAN YOU CLAIM ADORES YOU, FOOL!
TH' LITTLE DOUBLE CROSSIN' WENCH! IF I COULD GIT MY HANDS ON HER...
STOP YOUR FOOLISH BOASTING AND LISTEN TO THEM!
HUH! WHUT'S SHE DOIN' WITH TONY CARDOZO? SHE WAS SUPPOZED TO BE MY GIRL!

KIKI, YER TERRIF'! TH' WAY YA BAITED DUMB JOHNNIE TO HIS DEATH WAS SLICK!
CA-RAZY 'BOUTCHA, TONY! GIMME! OHH... THEY'RE SO PRETTY! MAYBE YOU CAN GET SOME MORE FOR LITTLE KIKI?
SNEAKIN' GOLD DIGGIN' BROAD! I'LL GET EVEN WITH THAT TOMATO, AN' TONY TOO!
TOSS THIS BLUBBERING IDIOT INTO THE PIT OF ETERNAL FIRE! I'M TIRED OF HIS RANTING!
BUT AS THE EVIL DENIZENS OF THE NETHER WORLD CLOSED IN, JOHNNIE SNATCHED AWAY THE DEVILS TRIDENT, AND...
YOU WON'T GIT JOHNNIE GROTZ WITHOUT A FIGHT! THE FIRST BOGEYMAN WOT LAYS A CLAW ON ME GITS THIS PITCHFORK RAMMED INTO HIM WHERE IT'LL DO THE MOST GOOD!
BACK COWERED THE SLAIN GANGSTERS UNHOLY FOES, CRINGING AND YAMMERING...
THE TRIDENT! HE STOLE THE BOSS' TRIDENT!
WHOEVER OWNS THE TRIDENT IS MASTER HERE! IT IS THE SECRET SOURCE OF BLACK POWER!
YOU TALK TOO MUCH! QUIET!
AHA! I GIT THE SET-UP! AS LONG AS I HANG ON TO THIS FANCY PITCHFORK, I'M THE BIG CHEESE 'ROUND HERE! HAW! AIN'T THAT SOMETHING! I GUESS THAT MAKES ME "THE KING OF HADES!"

NOW LOOKA HERE, YA UNHOLY MUGS THERE'S GONNA BE A LOT OF CHANGES AROUND HERE.' BUT FIRST I'VE GOT A FEW PRIVATE SCORES TO SETTLE BACK ON EARTH.'
WE'RE ALONE, KIKI.' HOW ABOUT PROVIN' YA LOVE ME, HUH? GIMME A GREAT BIG KISS.'
YIPES! WE'RE NOT ALONE NO MORE, TONY HONEY.'
WHAT A WASTE OF GOOD AMMUNITION.'
JOHNNIE! JOHNNIE GROTZ.' B-BUT IT CAN'T BE.' YER AT TH' BOTTOM OF TH' RIVER.'
HA-HA.' I GUESS I MUST BE IF YOU SAY SO, EH, TONY!?
OKAY, PALS.' LET 'EM HAVE IT.' THE PARTY'S ON ME - HELP YOURSELVES.' THIS SHOULD BE A REAL PLEASURE.'
WE'LL FIX THEM, DON'T WORRY.'
KIKI WAS NOT TO ESCAPE JOHNNIES INJURED VANITY... IN FACT SHE RECEIVED SPECIAL ATTENTION.'
AIEEEEE!

TAKE HER AWAY! SHE'S JUST WHAT WE NEED TO BRIGHTEN UP THE PLACE!
YIIII!
WHERE TO, BOSS!
WE'RE CALLING ON WHITNEY SQUAREDEAL, THE ASSISTANT D.A WHO SENT ME UP THE RIVER!
SQUAREDEAL WAS IN THE OFFICE OF HIS SUPERIOR, D.A. JACK STRONGHEART..
POINTING THE TRIDENT AT HIS HATED FOE, JOHNNIE WILLED HIM INTO PERFORMING A REPREHENSIBLE ACT..
SQUAREDEAL, YOU HEEL, YOU'RE STEALING THE WALLET MY DEAR DAD GAVE ME!
I-I C-CAN'T HELP MYSELF! (SOB)
SQUAREDEAL, THIS CITATION OF MERIT IS FOR TWENTY YEARS OF TRUE-BLUE SERVICE IN BEHALF OF LAW AND ORDER! I CONSIDER YOU INCORRUPTIBLE!
IT'S BEEN AN HONOR TO SERVE UNDER YOU, SIR!
(SOB) TWENTY YEARS DOWN THE DRAIN! WHY DID I DO IT? WHY?
LOCK UP THAT SNEAK! I'LL SEE TO IT THAT HE GETS LIFE!
NOW BOSS, NOW CAN WE GO BACK? WE COULD HAVE MORE FUN DOWN BELOW WITH OUR FRIENDS!
LET'S GO! I'VE GOT A FEW MORE DETAILS TO TAKE CARE OF!

THERE WAS HELL TO PAY WHEN JOHNNIE GOT BACK TO HADES! HE MADE SOME STARTLING INNOVATIONS AND NO ONE DARED DISOBEY THE POSSESSOR OF THE BLACK MAGIC TRIDENT!
AIR CONDITIONING IN HELL! IT'S MADNESS! W-WE'RE FREEZING!
SHADDUP! I'M BOSS HERE! NOW SHINE MY SHOES!
HOW HUMILIATING! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D COME TO THIS!
HAW-HAW! IF THE BOYS COULD ONLY SEE ME NOW! JOHNNIE GROTZ... KING OF HADES!
BUT AS JOHNNIE DROPPED THE TRIDENT, SATAN GESTURED... AND SUDDENLY THE GROUND WAS COVERED WITH HUNDREDS, ALL IDENTICAL!
ONE OUT OF HUNDREDS! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! WHATA DEVILISH TRICK!
FRANTICALLY JOHNNIE GRABBED TRIDENT AFTER TRIDENT, MOUTHING COMMANDS, WITHOUT EFFECT! THEN HE LOOKED UP AND GASPED...
DEVIL! LISSEN! I WAS ONLY KIDDIN'! I NEVER MEANT T' SWIPE YER JOB FER LONG! IT WAS JUST A JOKE! HONEST! DON'T LET 'EM...
INTO THE FLAMES WITH THE FOOL WHO DARED TRY TO OUTWIT SATAN! HE WILL SUFFER AGONIES YET UNDREAMED OF BY THE MOST MANIACAL MIND!
THE END

THE SUPERNATURAL
FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL, PEOPLE HAVE THRILLED TO THE SUPERNATURAL -- TO TALES OF STRANGE SPECTERS WHO HAVE HAUNTED COUNTLESS MIDNIGHTS! BUT HERE'S SOMETHING NEW ... SOMETHING DIFFERENT! IT'S THE STORY OF ... THE HOLLAND HAUNT!

IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE HAND OF FATE, THAT LETTER WHICH CAUGHT UP WITH PETER VAN NOSTRAND IN LONDON...
IT'S FROM MY UNCLE HENDRIK IN NEW YORK, BRIAN... GOOD GRIEF IT'S POSTMARK OVER SIX MONTHS AGO!
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR NEVER STAYING PUT IN ONE PLACE PETE!
HMMM... MAYBE I'LL START SETTLING DOWN NOW! MY UNCLE'S GETTING OLD AND WANTS ME TO COME HOME!! I'LL WRITE HIM THAT I'M ON MY WAY!
BACK HOME... PETE COULDN'T EXPLAIN THE STRANGE PREMONITION OF IMPENDING DISASTER WHICH HAUNTED HIM...
I CAN'T SHAKE OFF THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING TERRIBLE'S HAPPENED... IT'LL BE A RELIEF TO SEE UNCLE AT THE PIER!
PETER DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HIS PREMONITION WAS COMING TRUE...
BUT THERE WAS NO UNCLE TO MEET HIM...
THAT'S HIM... I RECOGNIZE HIM FROM HIS PICTURE! YOU HEAD FOR THE HOUSE, ANNA... I'LL TAKE CARE OF COUSIN PETER!
GUESS MY UNCLE'S TOO OLD TO MEET SHIPS! I'D BETTER TAKE A TAXI TO HIS PLACE!
EXIT
NO THERE WAS NOTHING TO WARN HIM NOW... NOTHING BUT A STRANGE LITTLE MAN WHO APPEARED MIRACULOUSLY... IN NICK OF TIME!
WHAT TH--!

WHEW! IF YOU HADN'T PULLED ME OUT OF THE WAY, I'D.. HEY! WHERE'D THAT LITTLE GUY, GO? HE WAS JUST HERE A SECOND AGO!
WELL NO USE WORRYING ABOUT HIM... NOW FOR A CAB.. NOT THAT THERE'S MUCH CHANCE OF GETTING ONE WITH THAT CROWD WAITING!
CAB
JUST THEN...
WELL I'LL BE...! CABBIE, IF IT WASN'T CRAZY, I'D SAY THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAVED MY LIFE A FEW MINUTES AGO... BUT FORGET IT! JUST TAKE ME TO 210 BANK STREET!
BUT THE DRIVER SCARCELY SEEMED TO LISTEN! WITH A ROAR, THE CAR WAS OFF, IGNORING SIGNALS, MAGICALLY AVOIDING COLLISIONS...
STOP DRIVER! ARE YOU NUTS?
BUT STILL THE STRANGE, HURTLING RACE CONTINUE.. ONLY TO PAUSE WHEN...
STOP, I TELL YOU.. YOU'RE HEADED IN THE WRONG DIRECTION!
BUT.. BUT WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE... TO A GRAVEYARD?

NO ANSWER! NOTHING BUT THE PALLID BEAM OF THE SPOTLIGHT..ON A TOMBSTONE!
HENDRIK ONNOSTRAND
BORN MARCH 5 1894
IT'S UNCLE HENDRIK... DEAD! BUT HOW..
THEN... WITH A LURCH, THE STRANGE TAXI SWINGS INTO MOTION, HEADING BACK.. AT BLINDING SPEED!
DID THE STRANGE LITTLE CABBIE HEAR FOR HE GAVE NO ANSWER...AND AS IF BY SOME EERIE MAGIC, THEY REACHED THEIR DESTINATION!
WAIT! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MY UNCLE? WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?
UNCLE HENDRIK'S HOUSE! BUT SECOND AGO, WE WERE BACK THERE...IN THE CEMETERY!
AND FROM WITHIN THE HOUSE...
THERE HE GOES...AND THE TAXI'S FADING AWAY DISAPPEARING! IT'S INCREDIBLE!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO.. HE'S HERE! OH, IF YOU'D ONLY GOTTEN RID OF HIM BACK AT THE PIER, ARNOLD!
IT WAS TOUGH LUCK, BUT IT'LL BE EASIER HERE!... LISTEN! WE'LL WELCOME HIM AND TELL HIM EVERYTHING ABOUT THE WILL... DON'T WORRY... HE'LL BE DEAD BEFORE THE NIGHT'S OVER!

YOU WISHED TO SEE ,,GREAT SCOTT! YOU'RE PETER,, PETER VAN NOSTRAND!
THAT'S RIGHT! WHO ARE YOU?
I'M YOUR COUSIN ARNOLD,, AND THAT'S ANNA MY WIFE! THIS IS A SURPRISE!
PETER! I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT,, NOBODY'S HEARD FROM YOU FOR YEARS!
BUT I WROTE UNCLE HENDRIK I WAS COMING! OF COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD DIED THEN ,,, BUT MY LETTER MUST'VE ARRIVED!
I'M AFRAID IT DIDN'T AND WE WOULD'VE KNOWN, SINCE WE WERE LOOKING AFTER THE OLD MAN WHEN THE END CAME! WE STAYED ON HERE, ASSUMING THIS WAS OUR HOUSE ,,, UNTIL NOW!
I DON'T GET IT! WHOSE HOUSE IS IT, THEN?
OF COURSE ,, YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE WILL! UNCLE HENDRIK LEFT EVERYTHING TO YOU!
HMMM,,, THAT IS NEWS!
FOR YEARS THE LAWYERS SEARCHED EVERYWHERE FOR YOU, AND ASSUMED YOU WERE DEAD! MATTER OF FACT, IN TWO MONTHS YOU'D BEEN DECLARED LEGALLY DEAD AND THE PROPERTY WOULD'VE GONE TO THE NEXT IN LINE ,,, ME!
SO YOU OWN A HOUSE NOW,, COUSIN! WE'LL GO SEE THE LAWYERS IN THE MORNING AND ARRANGE FOR IT!
SORT OF TOUGH FOR YOU ,, ME SHOWING UP, HUH? MAYBE I SHOULD'VE STAYED MISSING!

NOTHING OF THE SORT! IT'S WONDERFUL TO HAVE YOU TURN UP LIKE THIS!
AND YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY THIS OLD DUTCH HOUSE!
PETER BEGAN TO TELL HIS STORY,, LITTLE KNOWING THE STRANGE SPECTER HIS WORDS WERE SUMMONING...
ARNOLD,, THE WINDOW!
CONFOUND IT, I COULD'VE SWORN THAT WINDOW WAS CLOSE!
AS THEY PROCEEDED... UNAWARE OF THEIR WEIRD VISITOR...
YOU WERE SAYING, PETE?
OH, YES! WELL OF COURSE NOBODY BELIEVES IN GHOSTS, BUT...
WHA— UNCLE HENDRIK PICTURE... IT MUST HAVE COME LOOSE!
WACK!
WHEN A DEAD MAN'S PICTURE FALLS... IT WAS ENOUGH TO DRIVE FROM MIND THE STORY PETE HAD PLANNED TO TELL...
SORRY FOR THIS RECEPTION! UNCLE HENDRIK ALWAYS SAID THIS HOUSE WAS HAUNTED,, AND MAYBE IT IS! HA-HA! WELL... MIGHT AS WELL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM!
HAVE A NICE REST, PETER,, A NICE, LONG REST!
I'M SURE I WILL GOOD NIGHT!

PETER PREPARES FOR BED! BUT WHAT STRANGE REASON TURNS HIS ATTENTION TOWARDS THE FIREPLACE!
HMM... A PARTIALLY-BURNED ENVELOPE! AN ENGLISH STAMP AND POSTMARKED LONDON... ON THE VERY DAY I WROTE TO UNCLE HENDRIK! ARNOLD SAID MY LETTER HAD NEVER ARRIVED... BUT THIS MAKES ME WONDER!
LATER... HE'S ASLEEP! IT WOULD BE EASY NOW...
NOT YET, ANNA... I'VE BEEN THINKING! HOW DID PETER KNOW UNCLE WAS DEAD... PERHAPS HE KNOWS WHERE THOSE OLD DOCUMENTS ARE!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS... WE WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THEM OURSELVES IF OLD HENDRIK HADN'T BABBLED IN HIS DELIRIUM! WE'VE GOT TO FINISH PETER NOW, ARNOLD!
ALL RIGHT... BUT LET'S WAIT A COUPLE OF HOURS AND SEE IF PETER DOES KNOW WHERE THOSE PAPERS ARE, HE MAY ATTEMPT TO GET THEM TONIGHT!
MEANWHILE, WITHIN... HOVERING OVER THE SLEEPING MAN... THE EERIE GHOST SMILED...
AND IN PETER'S SLEEP-SHROUDED MIND, AN ODD DREAM FORMED...
IT IS A BARGAIN, MYNHEER! HERE IS THE GOLD... AND THE LAND IS MINE!
YOU NOW OWN A SECTION OF NEW AMSTERDAM, PETER!
NOW TO PUT THESE DOCUMENTS IN A SAFE PLACE... AND I KNOW THE VERY SPOT! THE SECRET COMPARTMENT!

THE WEIRD DREAM PROCEEDED ...AND PETER SAW THE LITTLE MAN ENTER A HOUSE, APPROACH THE WALL NEAR AN ORNATE BUST! A TOUCH OF HIS FINGER ...AND A CONCEALED DRAWER SLID OPEN!
GOOD GOSH! GUESS IT WAS A DREAM... BUT IT WAS SO VIVID!
BUT I DON'T GET IT! HOW COME THAT LITTLE MAN IN MY DREAM WAS THE IMAGE OF THE GUY WHO SAVED MY LIFE?
THAT BUST IN THE DREAM, SEEMS TO ME I SAW SOMETHING LIKE THAT IN THE HALL DOWNSTAIRS!
I'M POWERLESS... BEFORE A STRANGE COMPULSION! I'VE GOT TO GO DOWNSTAIRS AND SEE!
THERE HE GOES! I TOLD YOU HE KNOWS SOMETHING!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... IT'S THE SAME ONE AS IN MY DREAM! LET'S SEE... THE LITTLE DUTCHMAN PRESSED THE MOULDING ABOUT HERE...
WOW! THERE IS A HIDDEN DRAWER... WITH SOMETHING INSIDE IT!

LET'S SEE... WOW! IT'S AN OLD DEED TO PROPERTY AT THE FOOT OF OLD NEW AMSTERDAM.. PRESENT DAY MANHATTAN! WHY IT MUST BE WORTH MILLIONS!
YOU'RE RIGHT PETER-IT IS! AND HOW LUCKY THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE FOUND IT!
ARNOLD! BUT WHAT'S WITH THE GUN?
IT'S POINTED RIGHT WHERE I WANT IT! WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING THE WHOLE HOUSE FOR THOSE PAPERS! HAND THEM OVER!
WHY SHOULD I... THEY BELONG TO ME? DIDN'T YOU TELL ME UNCLE HENDRIK HAD LEFT EVERYTHING TO ME?
YES, BUT NOBODY KNOWS YOU'VE RETURNED... YOU'LL BE DECLARED LEGALLY DEAD WITHIN TWO MONTHS... AND I'LL OWN EVERYTHING! THEY'LL NEVER FIND YOUR BODY, PETER!
DO YOU THINK I'D LET YOU STAND BETWEEN ME AND A FORTUNE!
I'D BET THAT YOU KILLED UNCLE!
MEANWHILE A SPECTER LISTEN!
CALL IT HELPING ALONG THE PROCESS OF OLD AGE BY AN OVERDOSE OF MEDICINE!

PETER DIDN'T STOP TO SPECULATE ON THE SWORD DROPPED INTO HIS HAND, SEEMINGLY FROM NOWHERE ARMED NOW, HE SWUNG INTO ACTION!
OKAY, BUDDY! HERE IT COMES!

ARGH!
WHUMP!
AND AT THE CRUCIAL MOMENT...
YOU TWO ARE UNDER ARREST, WE'VE HEARD YOU CONFESS TO MURDER!
ALONE LATER...
BUT I..I CAN'T UNDERSTAND! HOW'D YOU HAPPEN TO GET HERE ..NOW!
A LITTLE OLD CAB-DRIVER CAME TO THE STATION AND TOLD US THERE WAS TROUBLE HERE! WE GOT HERE JUST IN TIME TO HEAR THAT PUNK BRAGGING ABOUT KILLING HIS UNCLE!
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW! IT'S ALL OVER...I WONDER WHO THAT LITTLE MAN WAS!
AGAIN, AN ODD CUMPULSION... PULLING PETER'S EYES TOWARD THE OLD BUST! AND THERE HE SAW...
THAT FACE... THE SAME AS THE MAN WHO SAVED ME AT THE PIER ...ALSO THE TAXI DRIVER...AND THE OLD DUTCHMAN IN MY DREAM!
AND THAT'S WHO HE WAS..MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER!
THE END
PETER VAN N
NEW AMSTERDAM
1640

THE THING

BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTHING HERE! WHAT IS IT, PETE? WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?

AAAIIEEE!! JACK! DO SOMETHING! HELP!! HELP!!

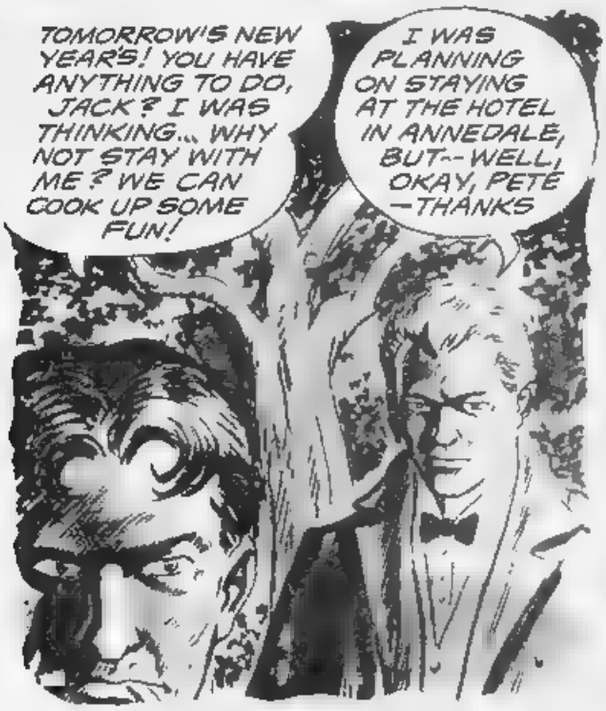
WHAT GHASTLY, MACABRE MYSTERY WAS THIS? JACK DARROW COULD SEE THAT HIS FRIEND, PETE LARKIN, WAS GRIPPED BY STARK TERROR! BUT OF WHAT WAS HE AFRAID? AT THE APPOINTED TIME, JACK DARROW KNEW! HE KNEW THERE WAS NO ESCAPE FROM THE THING!

I WAS STARTLED WHEN I REALIZED I KNEW HIM! ---
WHY, HELLO! YOU'RE PETE LARKIN, AREN'T YOU?
WHY, YES! -- HELLO!

HE'D BEEN A CLASSMATE OF MINE AT N.Y.U. TEN YEARS BEFORE!
IMAGINE BUMPING INTO YOU AFTER SO MANY YEARS! HOW ARE YOU, PETE?
I'M FINE, JACK! NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

HE LOOKED AWFUL! I REMEMBERED THAT HE HAD BEEN A DELICATE SORT OF BOY IN COLLEGE!
NOTHING MUCH HAS HAPPENED TO ME SINCE, JACK! I--WELL, I'VE BEEN SICK QUITE A BIT!
YEAH? TOUGH LUCK!

HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN!
I LIVE NEAR HERE... ALONE! WHOLE FAMILY'S OUT WEST! I'M RESTING NOW-- BOUGHT MYSELF A LITTLE HOUSE!


TOMORROW'S NEW YEAR'S! YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO DO, JACK? I WAS THINKING... WHY NOT STAY WITH ME? WE CAN COOK UP SOME FUN!
I WAS PLANNING ON STAYING AT THE HOTEL IN ANNEDALE, BUT--WELL, OKAY, PETE --THANKS

WHAT GRIM TRICK OF FATE MADE ME MEET HIM AND ACCEPT HIS INVITATION?
IT'S JUST A LITTLE WAY DOWN THIS ROAD... ISN'T MUCH OF A PLACE! BETTER TAKE IT SLOW, ROAD GETS BAD HERE...

IT WAS A STRANGE OLD HOUSE! YOU'D THINK THAT NO ONE HAD LIVED IN IT FOR YEARS!...
I BOUGHT IT CHEAP, JACK!

HE LED ME UP A CREAKY BROKEN-DOWN OLD STAIRWAY!
I-I'VE BEEN SO SICK I'VE BEEN NEGLECTING THE PLACE A LITTLE!

WHAT COULD I SAY? I WAS MOSTLY SILENT AS I SAT UNEASILY IN THAT TOWER ROOM WITH HIM!--
MILK AND SANDWICHES OKAY, JACK?-- I'M NOT MUCH OF A HOUSEKEEPER!
THAT'S FINE, PETE!
I'LL STAY A WHILE... THEN BEAT IT!

IF ONLY I HAD HAD THE SENSE TO GET OUT THEN! BUT I SAT THERE... FROZEN WITH A GROWING HORROR! WAS HE INSANE?---
SURE NICE TO HAVE YOU, JACK! GETS SO LONELY HERE! MAKE ME NERVOUS! HA! HA! YES, THAT'S MY TROUBLE-- I'M SO NERVOUS!
LONELY? YES, I CAN IMAGINE!
HE'S FRIGHTENED, BUT... WHY?

PETE! WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU AFRAID OF THIS BALCONY?
I-I GUESS SO! SOMETHING AWFUL HAPPENED HERE, JACK! THEY TOLD ME ABOUT IT WHEN I BOUGHT THE HOUSE! THAT'S WHY THEY SOLD IT SO CHEAP!

THEY SAID A MURDER WAS COMMITTED HERE ONE NIGHT... I SHOULDN'T LIVE HERE! I GET TOO FRIGHTENED!
A MURDER? TELL ME ABOUT IT!

"IT SEEMS THERE WAS A YOUNG FELLOW DOWN ON HIS LUCK ONE NIGHT IN A BAR AND GRILL HE STRUCK UP AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH A MIDDLE-AGED ENGLISHMAN..."
WOW! WHAT A WAD! THIS OLD DUCKS A TOTAL STRANGER AROUND HERE! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM--
THERE YOU ARE MY GOOD MAN!
THANK YOU, SIR!
"THE KILLER HAD SEEN THIS DESERTED HOUSE! ON SOME PRETEXT HE LURED THE ENGLISHMAN HERE..."
I SAY! THIS IS AN ODD OLD PLACE!
MIGHTY INTERESTING! I'LL SHOW YOU!
"SOMEHOW HE GOT HIM OUT ON THE MOONLIT BALCONY!"
I SAY! NOW, LOOK HERE, YOUNG MAN, I--?
WHAT IN-
THEN IN THE STRUGGLE...
"THE FALL KILLED HIM! THEN--"
HELP!
HELP!
NEARLY EIGHT HUNDRED BUCKS! I'LL BURY HIM IN THE CELLAR! NOBODY'LL EVER KNOW!

"BUT WHEN THE KILLER GOT BACK, GLOATING OVER HIS LOOT---"
I--I JUST BURIED YOU! YOU'RE GET AWAY FROM ME--YOU--YOU HORRIBLE THING! AAAAH!!
HA! HA! NOW ITS YOUR TURN!

NO! HELP! HELP!
YOU MUST BE PUNISHED! HA! HA!

"HE FELL ON THE ROCKS, AND FOR A MOMENT THE MURDERER LIVED, DYING IN AGONY--"
YOUR PUNISHMENT--NOT JUST TO DIE NOW! BUT AT THE END OF EACH YEAR YOU SHALL LIVE AGAIN FOR A DAY! --- AND AT MIDNIGHT-- DIE HERE AGAIN! YOUR PUNISHMENT-- NEVER TO END!

AT THE END OF EACH YEAR! DECEMBER 31ST-- AT MIDNIGHT! AND THAT WAS... NOW!!
BUT IT WON'T HAPPEN THIS TIME, WILL IT, JACK? D-DO SOMETHING! IT CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN THIS YEAR!
WHA--?
HA! HA! YOUR TIME HAS COME, PETE!

TO LIVE AGAIN--- AND DIE AGAIN--- AND AGAIN, ON THROUGH THE YEARS!-- HIS GHASTLY HORRIBLE PUNISHMENT!
HA! HA! HA!
NO! NO! AAGGGH!

FOR A MOMENT I GAZED DOWN AT THE ROCKS! NOTHING WAS THERE! NOTHING WAS IN THE DESERTED OLD HOUSE... UNTIL THE END OF THE NEW YEAR WHICH NOW WAS BEGINNING!

THEN, SHUDDERING, I FLED!!
THE END

OVER THE HOWL OF THE WIND CAME A SHRILL AND HORRIBLE CRY OF DEATH! TWO MEN AND A WOMAN, CHALLENGED THE HIGHEST PEAK IN THE WORLD, WHICH HAD NEVER BEEN CONQUERED!

WITH OUR NATIVE GUIDE, OOG, WE STARTED UP THE LAST DANGEROUS STRETCH OF EVEREST...
HERE GOES, GANG! THREE-THOUSAND YARDS AND WE'LL BE THE FIRST HUMANS EVER TO CLIMB EVEREST!
ONLY THREE-THOUSAND YARDS DAN BUT IT'S ALMOST STRAIGHT UP!
BE CAREFUL NOW! MUCH DANGER!
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT SANDRA! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE IT!
EASY NOW— WATCH YOUR FOOTING!
NOTHING TO THIS LITTLE CHASM—
I'VE GOT TO KEEP UP WITH THE MEN! GOT TO PROVE I'M AS GOOD AS THEY ARE!

THEN, AS WE STOPPED TO REST, I SAW OOG STUDYING THE SKY INTENTLY...
NO GOOD, BIG STORM COME FAST!
MINUTES LATER...
OH, THAT WIND IS TERRIBLE!
HOLD ON EVERYONE!- CAN'T LET THE TENT BLOW AWAY!
SUDDENLY OUR GUIDE CRYED OUT IN HORROR...
Y!!!!!!—LOOK SOME STRANGE THING COMES OUT OF STORM!
THE MOUNTAIN IS ANGRY! IT WILL KILL YOU...TURN BACK!
GREAT GODFREY, IT'S A MAN!
LIKE NO MAN I EVER SAW BEFORE!
BEWARE! I WARN YOU! GO BACK WHILE THERE IS TIME!
THE GHASTLY FIGURE STARTED TO VANISH INTO THE STORM...
HE SAID THE MOUNTAIN WOULD KILL US!
COME BACK, MAN! WHO ARE YOU?

HAAAAA! MY NAME ONCE WAS KAHN, THE GREAT NOW I GO TO A PLACE FROM WHICH THERE IS NO RETURNING!
KAHN, THE GREAT?!...HE WAS BURIED ON THIS MOUNTAINS CENTURIES AGO!
A MUMMY? INCREDIBLE!
...IS MUMMY! OOG NO LIKE! TURN BACK! NOW!
LATER, AS THE STORM BLEW ITSELF OUT, WE STARTED UP THE LAST THOUSAND YARD...
DAN, THE LEADER OF OUR PARTY THREATENED OOG WITH A GUN...
WE'RE GOING ON, UNDERSTAND? I'M NOT GOING TO BE CHEATED BY A THING IN RAGS!
WATCH IT NOW! FROM HERE ON EVERY FOOT IS TREACHEROUS!
MAYBE OOG IS RIGHT—PERHAPS WE SHOULD TURN BACK!
CAREFUL, SANDRA, DON'T BUMP YOUR HEAD AGAINST THE CLIFFS FACE!
I'M ALL RIGHT! PULL ME UP!

THERE SHE IS AT LAST!
OOG STILL THINKS BETTER GO BACK!
YAAAA— SEE THERE IN ICE! IS HAND OF MAN!
LET'S DIG IT UP!
TO OUR HORROR WE RECOGNIZED THE THING THAT STARED UP AT US...
THAT'S THE SAME MUMMY THAT WARNED US BACK THERE! KAHN, THE GREAT! THIS IS WHERE HE DIED!
THIS IS A NATURAL ICE-BOX! HE SHOULD BE WELL PRESERVED!
IS BAD TO DISTURB BODY! BRING BAD LUCK!
WONDER WHO IT WAS!
YAAAA— HIS GHOST TELL US GO BACK!
AS WE STARED AT THE CORPSE WE SUDDENLY HEARD A PEAL OF MANIACAL LAUGHTER! AND WHAT WE SAW BROUGHT COLD SWEAT OUT ON OUR BODIES....
HA-HA-HA-HA-HO-HO-HO-HO-HA-HA-HA-HA-
YIIIII— IS DEATH SPIRIT OF MOUNTAIN
WHAT A HORROR!
I AM THE GRAVE KEEPER! GO BACK, FOOLS, WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME! COME ONE STEP CLOSER AND YOU DIE! NONE WILL EVER CONQUER THE MOUNTAIN!

AS WE STOOD, SHAKING IN TERROR, AND UNDECIDED, DAN STARTED FORWARD! ONLY HE WAS UNAFRAID...
I'M GOING ON! NO GHOST, OR SPIRIT, OR WHATEVER IT IS, IS GOING TO KEEP ME FROM LICKING EVEREST!
DAN-BE CAREFUL!
H-HE'S ALMOST TO THE TOP AND NOTHING HAS HAPPENED YET! MAYBE HE WILL MAKE IT AFTER ALL!
BUT JUST AS DAN WAS A FEW FEET FROM THE TOP....
A CREVICE OPENING— YAAAAA-
HELP-GAAA-
HA-HA-HO-HEE- NOW YOU ALL DIE!
AN AVALANCHE! RUN!

WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT, OOG! HEAR THAT HORRIBLE LAUGHTER—THAT THING IS TAUNTING US!
MOUNTAIN DEATH IS MUCH ANGRY!
OOG, THE ROCKS! CAVING IN ON US! RUN! MAYBE WE CAN FIND ANOTHER LEDGE DOWN LOWER ON THE SLOPE!
I'M CAUGHT, MISSY! HELP!
OOG TRAPPED BY ROCKS! HELP—NO LEAVE FOR DIE! YIIIIII—
TERRIEIED AS I WAS, I COULD NOT LEAVE THE HELPLESS MAN TO DIE ALONE! AS I WORKED DESPERATELY, THAT HORRIBLE LAUGHTER RANG IN MY EARS....
HA-HA-HA-HA-DIE!
NO USE! YOU'RE CAUGHT FAST!
HO-HO-HO-HO—YOU WAITED TOO LONG! THE MAN DIES FIRST, THEN YOU! YOU WILL NEVER DEFY THE MOUNTAIN AGAIN!
THAT CREATURE—ON SKIS! COMING AFTER ME!
OOG DIED BENEATH A SHOWER OF ROCKS...
NO-YAAAAA—

JUBIL-SCAN 2014

BUT LUCK WAS WITH ME - I FELL INTO A SOFT BANK OF SNOW...
SAFE FOR A TIME YET! BUT I WONDER WHY IT HASN'T COME AFTER ME?
GO AND LIVE, FOR YOU FOUGHT WELL FOR YOUR LIFE! THIS ONE TIME I WILL PERMIT YOU TO ESCAPE!
T-THERE IT IS, LEERING DOWN AT ME-SPEAKING TO ME!
YOU WILL SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS! TELL THEM-STAY AWAY FROM THE MOUNTAIN! HA-HA-HA-HEE-HEE-HOO-HOO-I GO NOW!
HOURS LATER, DAZED AND STILL SHAKING WITH TERROR, I REACHED OUR CAMP ON LEDGE OF THAT AWFUL, MOUNTAIN...
WHERE OTHERS, MISSY? WE HEAR STRANGE THUNDER!
T-THUNDER? OH, NO! NOT THUNDER! THAT WAS-(SOB)-LAUGHTER YOU HEARD! THE OTHERS ALL DEAD!
THE TIBETANS TOOK ME OUT TO CIVILIZATION! I SPENT WEEKS IN A HOSPITAL AND FOR SOME REASON THEY WOULD NOT LET ME HAVE A MIRROR...
WELL, IF YOU INSIST! BUT IT'S AGAINST ORDERS!
PLEASE I MUST HAVE A MIRROR!
AND THIS IS THE WAY I LOOK NOW, MY FACE OLD AND MY HAIR COMPLETELY WHITE! THAT IS MY STORY, EVERY WORD TRUE, AND YOU MAY BELIEVE IT OR NOT, AS YOU WISH....
The End

POOL OF HORROR

A SPARKLING POOL... **WHITE** COTTAGES... ALL THE TRAPPINGS OF A PLEASANT SUMMER RESORT! YET WHAT IS THE **UNSPEAKABLE** EVIL THAT TRANSFORMED THIS PEACEFUL SCENE INTO **HORROR**...

A QUIET WARM SUMMER AFTERNOON--AND JIM AND MARY TURNER, WITH MARY'S FATHER, ENJOY A CHEERFUL DRIVE IN THE COUNTRY...

THAT MUST BE THE PILGRIMS CHURCH, FATHER! LOOK HOW **OLD** IT IT!!

IT'S BEEN DESERTED EVER SINCE THE **LAST WITCH** WAS BURNED THERE--OVER TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO!--SAY, JIM, IS THE CAR **STALLING??**

OUT OF GAS! AND THE LAST STATION IS TEN MILES BACK!

THAT SEEMS TO BE A SUMMER COLONY OVER THERE, JIM! MAYBE THEY CAN HELP US!

A SHORT WALK TO THE COLONY-- AND THE THREE ARE SUDDENLY CONFRONTED BY FACES PALE WITH EYES SHINING WITH A FLAME OF EVIL!...

YOU HAVE A FAR WALK TO THE NEXT STATION-- WHY NOT SPEND THE NIGHT WITH US? WE CAN MAKE YOU COMFORTABLE!

TH-THANKS! IT SEEMS WE HAVE NO CHOICE!

PERHAPS YOU WOULD CARE FOR A SWIM BEFORE SUPPER!

FINE! THAT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED!

I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE! DID YOU SEE THE LOOKS IN THEIR EYES...

NONSENSE, JIM! THEY'RE GOOD-HEARTED PEOPLE!

AS MARY'S FATHER PREPARES TO LEAP INTO THE POOL, THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY GATHER ABOUT SMILING...

HAVE A GOOD SWIM!!

THERE'S SOMETHING EVIL IN THE AIR!! I CAN FEEL IT!

COME ON IN! THE WATER IS FINE!

FATHER!! BEHIND YOU!! THERE'S SOMETHING-- SOMETHING HORRIBLE--!

AIRGHH!!

NO! NO!

FEED WELL, MY PRETTY ONE! FEED WELL!!

MY FATHER! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY FATHER??
WHAT MONSTROUS PLACE IS THIS?? WHO ARE YOU??
IT IS TIME YOU KNEW THE TRUTH!!

WE ARE PEOPLE OF DARKNESS-- AND THIS IS WHERE WE SPEND OUR SUMMERS FOR SPORT... AND ENTERTAINMENT... AS YOU SHALL DISCOVER!!

LATER...
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US?
SHH! I THINK I HEAR ONE OF THEM COMING!

THE AMUSEMENT HALL IS OPEN-- AND THE PERFORMANCE HAS BEGUN!! STUDY IT CAREFULLY-- FOR TOMORROW YOU SHALL PERFORM FOR US!!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST KILL US AND BE DONE WITH IT?

THE COUPLE IS LED TO A SCENE WHICH MAKES A DREADFUL MOCKERY OF THE LAUGHTER... AND A FIENDISH LUST OF THE APPLAUSE!!...
IT'S AMUSING-- IS IT NOT??
NO, NO! NO!

COME! COME!! WHY DO YOU SHRINK FROM ITS LOVING EMBRACE??
LET ME GO!! LET ME GO!!!
ONE BY ONE THE PERFORMERS ARE BROUGHT ONTO THE STAGE--TO DO THEIR BIT FOR THE PLEASURE OF THE BLOOD-MAD SPECTATORS...
ENCORE! ENCORE!
STOP!! STOP!! YAAH-H!
MORE! MORE!

FINALLY, THE AUDIENCE OF FIENDS EMERGE FROM THEIR "ENTERTAIN-MENT" HALL, WITH THE PROMISE OF NEW VICTIMS LIGHTING THEIR RAVAGED FACES!!...
SLEEP WELL, MY FRIENDS... FOR REMEMBER, YOU SHALL PERFORM FOR US TOMORROW NIGHT!!
TAKE US BACK TO THE COTTAGE-- I CAN'T BEAR TO GAZE AT YOUR HIDEOUS BEING!!

WHAT CAN WE DO, JIM? WHAT CAN WE DO??
WE MUST ESCAPE!! THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY OUT--MARY!! I HAVE IT!!-- THE MISSION!!
THE MISSION WE PASSED IS JUST A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY... AND WITCHES CANNOT LIVE UNDER THE SOUNDS OF CHURCH BELLS! IF I COULD GET TO THOSE BELLS...
WE WOULD BE SAVED!! BUT HOW--

GUARD-- COME QUICKLY!! M-MY WIFE'S GONE OUT OF HER MIND!! SHE'S TRYING TO KILL ME!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER??
WHEN THE GUARD OPENED THE DOOR, JIM GRABBED HIM BY THE THROAT AND KILLED HIM!...
AARGH-H-H!
HURRY, MARY-- WE HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE!!
NO, JIM-- I--I'M TOO EXHAUSTED!! I'D ONLY GET US BOTH CAUGHT! YOU GO ALONE... QUICKLY!!

WHILE THE CREATURES PERFORM THEIR FRENZIED RITES OF EVIL, JIM SLIPS AWAY INTO THE NIGHT!...
GOT TO HURRY-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!

BUT AS MARY WAITS, THE WITCHES COME IN SEARCH FOR THE MISSING GUARD AND BRING WITH THEM THE CHILL OF VIOLENT DEATH...
THE MAN HAS ESCAPED!! BUT WE STILL HAVE HER-- ONE FRESH MORSEL OF FOOD FOR OUR HUNGRY PET!!
W-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

THROW HER IN!
NO!! DON'T!!

WHAT WAS THAT SOUND ?? IT-- IT COULDN'T BE...
IT'S JIM! HE-- HE'S REACHED THE CHURCH!
CLANG!
CLANG!
CLANG!

AS THE BELLS RING THE DEMONS OF DARKNESS CROUCH LIKE WOUNDED ANIMALS DOOMED TO DIE IN FLAME!!
AIEEE! THE BELLS!!
CLANG!
CLANG!
CLANG!

THE FLAMES! THE FLAMES! YAAAAH-H-H!!!

LIKE THE BURNING VENGEANCE OF HEAVEN, THE FIRE CONTINUES TO EAT AT THE BODIES OF THE AGONIZED CREATURES...
AAAAGH

JIM! JIM, DARLING!! WHERE ARE YOU??

SOON JIM AND MARY TURNER-- THE GHASTLY EVENTS OF THE DAY SEARED IN THEIR MINDS-- WATCH THE COLONY BEING DEVOURED IN FLAMES...
IT'S HORRIBLE, JIM!! I--I CAN'T BEAR TO LOOK!!
THEY DIE AS THEY DESERVE TO DIE, MARY-- IN FIRE!!

THE DEAD DEMONS
NIGHT, AND THE HIDEOUS DEMONS THAT LURK IN THE DARK CORNERS OF THE EARTH SLOWLY EMERGE TO MAKE THEIR HOMES IN THE MINDS OF EVIL MEN... THE DEAD AND THE LIVING MEET AT THE FATAL STROKE OF MIDNIGHT!
NO! NO! IT CAN'T BE! GO AWAY! AHH-H-H-H
YOUR DOOM APPROACHES, DOCTOR! YOU WILL JOIN US IN THE RIVER OF THE DEAD!

IN THE CASTLE OF DOCTOR KARLA, DEEP IN THE BLACK, BEATING HEART OF ASIA, A STRANGE BARGAIN IS COMPLETED...
...AND YOU WILL BRING ME MANY BODIES FROM THE GRAVEYARD ON YOUR FERRY, PETERS! I NEED THEM FOR MY EXPERIMENTS FOR MY CREATION OF A LIVING HUMAN BODY!
KEEP PAYING ME AND I'LL KEEP BRINGING THEM! THERE WON'T BE A CORPSE LEFT WHEN I'M DONE!

THIS ONE SEEMS TO BE A FINE SPECIMEN! DOCTOR KARLA WILL BE PLEASED WITH MY WORK!

THERE SHOULD BE ENOUGH BODIES FOR A DOZEN EXPERIMENTS! HOW MANY DEAD SOULS ARE WANDERING TONIGHT UNABLE TO REST? WHAT IF THEY SHOULD SEEK REVENGE? WHAT IF--- BUT I MUSTN'T THINK OF THAT!

THERE IT IS! NOW I CAN COMPLETE MY MASTERPIECE!... MY LIVING, BREATHING MONSTER! THE WORLD MUST NEVER KNOW... NOBODY--- BUT WHAT ABOUT PETERS? I FORGOT ABOUT HIM! HE MUST BE DESTROYED!

AS A DREADFUL CREATURE SPAWNED BY EVIL COMES TO LIFE, SO A DREADFUL PLAN IS FORMULATED IN AN EVIL MIND...
TONIGHT, THE ONE MAN WHO KNOWS OF YOUR EXISTENCE WILL DIE! I'LL SNEAK ABOARD HIS SHIP...

THERE'S A STRANGE CHILL IN THE AIR TONIGHT! THE STENCH OF DEATH IS EVERYWHERE! AND I SEEM TO HEAR VOICES!
RETURN US TO OUR GRAVES... YOU MUST RETURN US TO OUR GRAVES!

AS PETERS BEGAN TO DOCK, KARLA LEAPED ABOARD FROM A LAUNCH, AND...
DIE, FOOL! YOU ARE NO USE TO ME ANY LONGER!
WH--?

COME BACK, PETERS! YOU WILL NEVER ESCAPE FROM THIS BOAT!
NO! NO! HAVE I NOT SERVED YOU? HAVE MERCY!

THE VISION OF THE KNIFE ABOVE HIS HEAD SEEKING TO RIP INTO HIS FLESH...THE TERRIFIED PETERS FLEES TO THE CABIN IN WHICH HE HAS PLACED THE HIDEOUS BODIES HE HAS STOLEN FROM THEIR GRAVES...
LET ME IN! I WILL NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL YOUR BLOOD RUNS ACROSS THE DECK OF THIS SHIP!
DON'T KILL ME, DOCTOR! DON'T KILL ME!

IF YOU KILL ME, THESE BODIES WILL HAVE ALL THEIR REVENGE ON ME FOR OPENING THEIR GRAVES! BUT REMEMBER... YOU GAVE ME THE ORDERS! YOU...
RAVE ON, FOOL, AND...

DIE!
AAAGH!

SINK INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE DARK RIVER UNTIL THE RIVER TURNS RED WITH YOUR BLOOD! YOU ARE AS DEAD AS THE BODIES YOU BROUGHT ME! HEH-HEH-HEH!

AS THE DAYS PASS, THE UNHOLY CREATION BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE! A NIGHTMARE WORLD TAKES OVER THE HOUSE ABOVE THE RIVER...
AH, MY PRETTY ONE, YOU ARE FORMING INTO MY MASTERPIECE AT LAST! SOON YOU WILL WALK AND BREATHE--AND EVEN SPEAK! THE BODIES THAT COMPOSE YOU HAVE BEEN VERY SATISFACTORY!

THERE'S A FEELING OF DEATH TONIGHT! I CAN ALMOST HEAR TORMENTED SOULS CALLING... I MUST GO BACK!
REVENGE FOR YOUR STOLEN BODIES! REVENGE! YOU HAVE VIOLATED THE PACT OF DEATH!

WH--WHAT'S THAT??

OUT OF THE BROODING BLACKNESS OF THE NIGHT, FIGURES OF DOOM APPEAR TO PLAGUE THE MAN WHO HAS CAUSED THEIR SOULS TO WANDER...
WE HAVE COME TO CLAIM YOU FOR THE LAND OF THE DEAD! WE CANNOT REST UNTIL YOUR BODY HAS CRUMBLED TO DUST!

I MUST GET INSIDE!
THERE IS NO ESCAPE!

LEAVE ME ALONE! DON'T TOUCH ME! AH-H-H!

A SUDDEN AND ACCIDENTAL MOVING OF A SWITCH AND THE MONSTROUS CREATURE STIRS AND COMES TO LIFE... A CREATURE WITHOUT MIND OR PURPOSE... BUT ONLY THE TERRIBLE URGE TO DESTROY...
MY CREATION IS MOVING! IT LIVES!
UGGH! ERRGHHH!

NO! DON'T! I GAVE YOU LIFE AND BREATH AND THE POWER TO MOVE! YOU CAN'T... AIEEE!

AS THE GREY DAWN BEGINS A STRANGE PROCESSION MOVES SLOWLY AND STEADILY TOWARDS THE EDGE OF DOOM AND THE WORLD OF DARKNESS...
FOLLOW ME, UNEARTHLY BEING... JOIN US WHERE ALL UNEARTHLY BEINGS LIVE IN THE PAINFUL FIRE OF ENDLESS DAMNATION! COME!

WHERE AM I? N-NO! NO! PUT ME DOWN! AHHH!
MOVE CLOSER TO THE EDGE... CLOSER... CLOSER...
UGHH! EIGHHH! AGH-HH!

I CREATED YOU! I MADE YOU FROM THE CRUMBLING BODIES OF DEAD HUMANS! YOU CAN'T DESTROY ME AND YOURSELF! NO--NO--!

NOW YOUR VENGEANCE IS COMPLETE, SPIRITS OF THE DEAD! NOW YOU CAN REST AND MOLD TO DUST IN YOUR DEFILED GRAVES! HE WHO DISTURBED YOUR LONG SLEEP HAS PAID THE TOLL!

DEEP INTO THE DARK, BLOOD-STAINED RIVER, THE DESPOILERS OF THE DEAD MOVE TO THEIR OWN WATERY GRAVES...AS THE INKY SHROUD OF EVIL ENVELOPES THEM...
FOREVER!!
THE END

A SAILOR IN HIS TRAVELS HEARS MANY A STRANGE TALE, SOME THAT MAKE THE BLOOD IN YOUR VEINS RUN AS COLD AS ARCTIC WATER! BUT THIS IS MORE THAN A ***WEIRD STORY*** OF THE SEA!

THE HAUNTS

THE OLD MAN SEEMED ANXIOUS TO HAVE ME AND I DIDN'T REFUSE HIM.
LOOKS LIKE OLD DAVIS HAS ANOTHER BOOB TO SPIN HIS YARN TO!
IT'S KIND OF YOU TO MAKE ROOM FOR ME!
IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT, MY NAME IS SAMUEL DAVIS, FIRST MATE OF THE ALBATROSS! HAVE YOU HEARD OF THAT SHIP?
THE ALBATROSS?? MMM—ISN'T THAT THE OLD WHALING SHIP OUT OF NEW LONDON THAT WENT DOWN WITH ALL HANDS YEARS AGO?
AYE-AYE-AYE, MATEY--THAT'S THE SHIP! ONLY SHE DIDN'T GO DOWN WITH ALL HANDS! ONE MAN LIVES--ME!
IN A MOMENT THE OLD MAN WAS SPINNING HIS YARN...
WE WERE 18 DAYS OUT OF NEW LONDON WHEN THE STORM HIT US! NEVER IN 20 YEARS HAD I SEEN SUCH A STORM! THE SEA WAS BLACK AND ANGRY—THE WIND WHISTLED AND WHINED IN THE RIGGING....
AHOY, DAVIS! GET THAT SAIL DOWN WITH YOUR MEN, OR WE'LL NOT HAVE A SPAR LEFT TO SAIL WITH!
AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN...'TIS A DEMON WIND THAT BLOWS TONIGHT!
YES, FEAR GRIPPED MY HEART IN THAT BLACK NIGHT, AND I DOUBTED IF ANY OF US SHOULD SEE THE SUN AGAIN! THE WIND BLEW HARD ENOUGH TO SPLIT A STONE, AND...

I COULD FEEL THE SHIP SHUDDER AS IF IT WERE IN THE HANDS OF A GIANT, A ***MAD MONSTER!!*** I DID NOT THINK OF THE ALBATROSS, OR MY DUTY TO HER OR THE CREW. I THOUGHT ONLY OF SAVING MYSELF...

DAVIS...DAVIS, COME BACK! DON'T ***ABANDON*** YOUR FRIENDS...

COME BACK! YOU'VE GOT THE ONLY LIFEBOAT!!

GOT TO GET AWAY BEFORE THE ALBATROSS SINKS...I'LL BE SUCKED DOWN!

I SHUT MY EARS TO THE PITIFUL CRY OF MY FRIENDS WHO WERE ***DRAGGED*** TO ***DEATH!***

HELP! HELP!! A CURSE ON YOU, DAVIS--A CU.... GLLGHS...

I THOUGHT THE WILD NIGHT WOULD NEVER END, BUT IT DID, AND SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

HELP! HELP! OH, THEY'VE ***GOT*** TO HEAR ME!! *HELP!!* ***HELP!!***

HO! MAN ADRIFT OFF THE STARBOARD BOW!

YES, I WAS SAVED! BUT FOR YEARS I WAS ***HAUNTED*** BY THE CRIES OF THE MEN.

THERE WAS NEITHER JOY NOR REST FOR ME! AND I DID NOT SAIL AGAIN! I WAS ***AFRAID*** OF THE SEA!! I WORKED AT ODD JOBS ON THE WATER-FRONT...

DAV-ISSSS... HEEELP USSSSS!!

THEN ONE DAY...

THE WHALER NEEDS A MATE BADLY--AND... UH...WE ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR ONE...

I SWORE I'D NOT SAIL AGAIN, BUT I DO NEED THE MONEY--ALL RIGHT! ONE MORE VOYAGE! WHERE IS THIS SHIP MOORED?

THIS SHIP HAS SEEN PLENTY OF SERVICE! SHE'S AS TORN AND RAVAGED AS.. ..WELL, AS MYSELF!! WHERE'S THE CREW? IT LOOKS DEAD UP THERE!
THEY'LL ALL BE ABOARD BY MORNING. DON'T WORRY, SHE'S NOT AS DEAD AS SHE LOOKS! GO AHEAD...YOU'LL FIND YOUR QUARTERS ALOFT!

I FELL INTO A DEEP SLEEP ABOARD THE OLD SHIP, BUT ABOUT MIDNIGHT I AWOKE WITH THE QUEER SENSATION THAT I WAS ALREADY ON A VOYAGE....
WHY-WE'RE AT SEA! SAY WHAT IS ALL THIS ANYHOW?

EVERYTHING IS SO QUIET...AND THIS TERRIBLE FOG! OH-THERE'S SOMEONE! AHOY, THERE.... WAIT!

HELLO, DAVISSS! WE HAVE BEEN WAITING... WAITING FOR A LONG TIME!

I FELT MY INSIDES WHIRL IN A MAELSTROM, AS THE SEA ROTTED FACE OF THE CAPTAIN STARED AT ME WITH THOSE DEAD EYES!! I RAN BUT THERE WAS NO ESCAPE! I WAS ONCE AGAIN ABOARD THE ALBATROSS!
STOP HIM!
AIEEEE!!

DON'T TELL ME THE HAND OF HIS FORMER MATES HAS SCARED THE LIFE OUT OF HIM? HA-HA! TAKE HIM FORWARD, MEN!
AYE, CAPTAIN...AND MAY JUSTICE BE DONE TO THE WRETCH!

AND THERE, ABOARD THAT ROTTED HULK, AMIDST THE LONG MOULDERING CREW OF THE ALBATROSS, I STOOD THE WEIRDEST TRIAL EVER STOOD, AND HEARD SENTENCE FROM THE LIPS OF THE DEAD!!
SAMUEL DAVIS—YOU STAND ACCUSED OF ABANDONING YOUR SHIP AND SHIPMATES IN TIME OF STRESS! WE ARE HERE TO SEE JUSTICE DONE! AND WHAT IS THE VERDICT?
AND TO A MAN THEY ANSWERED...
GUILTY!! GUILTY!!

I SENTENCE YOU TO ETERNAL LIFE, DAVISS... .YOU MUST TELL YOUR STORY TO EVERY-ONE, AND THERE SHALL BE NO PEACE FOR YOU, NO DEATH— UNTIL YOU FIND A MAN WHO WILL BELIEVE YOU!
I ROWED BACK TO SHORE, AND EVER SINCE IT HAS BEEN MY BURDEN TO TELL MY STORY! NOW, MATE, TELL ME QUICKLY...TELL ME!! DO YOU BELIEVE ME?
BUT, DAVIS, YOU KNOW THE ALBATROSS WENT DOWN MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS AGO! STILL, SIR, I THINK I DO...

I'M FREE! YOU DO BELIEVE... AGHHHH!!!
OF COURSE I BELIEVE YOU, DAVIS! HA-HA-HA! OF COURSE, I BELIEVE YOU!
HA, HA, HA, HA!
YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME, MATEY! YOU MUST HEAR MY STORY!
GO AWAY, YOU FOOL! EVERYONE ON THIS WATER-FRONT KNOWS YOUR HOGWASH!
The End

ON AND ON STAGGERED THE FUGITIVE FROM A NOOSE - ON ACROSS THE BLEAK AND FORBIDDING MOOR WHERE DEATH LURKED IN EVERY STEP, AND TERROR LAY LIKE A DEMON BENEATH THE GREEN SCUM OF THE BOG PITS! FOR A CONVICTED MURDERER, EVEN THE MOOR HELD LESS HORROR THAN THE ROPE HE HAD SO NARROWLY ESCAPED, BUT AN HOUR BEFORE, AND HE MIGHT WELL HAVE ESCAPED, HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR A CRAZED OLD WOMAN AND HER STRANGE AND REVOLTING PET, THE DEVIL CAT...
HORROR ON THE MOOR
ENGLISH JUSTICE IS SURE AND SWIFT
AS NIGHT FALLS ON GRIM DARTMOOR PRISON..
THIS IS THE NIGHT THEY HANG DAN DEEVER, POOR SOUL!
LISTEN...THE MUST BE TESTING THE GALLOWS NOW! UGH! GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
COME ALONG NOW, YOU CHAPS! LET'S GET THIS JOB OF TESTING OVER WITH! HOW DOES THE ROPE STAND THE STRAIN?
OKAY, SIR! IT'LL BREAK DAN DEEVERS NECK RIGHT ENOUGH!

BUT EVEN THEN..
HA- THOUGHT THEY WAS GOIN' T' HANG DAN DEEVER, DID THEY! NICE OF THAT GUARD TO FORGET TO LOCK THE DEATH CELL DOOR!
I'M THE FIRST CHAP TO ESCAPE FROM THE DEATH HOUSE AT DARTMOOR! GOR- I'D LIKE TO SEE THEIR FACES WHEN THEY FIND I'M GONE!
THE THING NOW IS TO HEAD FOR THE MOORS! MOST PEOPLE WOULD BE AFRAID TO TRY IT, BUT NOT OLD DAN! I AIN'T AFRAID OF NOTHING BUT HANGING!
AFTER AN HOUR ON THE GLOOMY MOORS...
HUH! A HOUSE OUT HERE! IF I LOOK AROUND, MAYBE I CAN STEAL SOME GRUB!
ONLY AN OLD WOMAN AND A CAT! WON'T BE MUCH TROUBLE WITH THEM!
ALL RIGHT, YOU OLD WITCH, I'M TAKING CHARGE HERE NOW! GIMME ALL THE FOOD YOU GOT, AND ALL YOUR MONEY! TRY TO HOLD OUT AND I'LL WRING YOUR SCRAWNY NECK!
YOU DON'T FRIGHTEN OLD BESS- YOU CONVICT!

YOU DON'T FRIGHTEN LUCIFER, EITHER! HEH HEH-HE'LL CLAW YOUR EYES OUT IF YOU HARM ME!
SPTT-T GRR-R-R
GET HIM, LUCIFER! RAKE HIS UGLY FACE TO SHREDS! LOOKS LIKE A GALLOWS BIRD TO ME!
HISSS-SS
K-KEEP THAT DEVIL AWAY!
YIIIIIEEEE MY EYES! MY FACE! THE BEAST HAS CLAWS LIKE STEEL HOOKS! AHHHHHHHH- I'LL KILL YOU, YOU MANGY BEAST! OHHHHHH!
IN A FRENZY OF PAIN THE CONVICT SWINGS THE CAT BY THE TAIL...
SRTTT HISS-SS
CLAW DAN DEEVER, WILL YOU... THIS WILL TEACH YOU!
AS THE CAT DIES, BESS LEAPS FORWARD WITH A SCREAM OF RAGE...
YOU MURDERED HIM - MY ONLY FRIEND IN THE WORLD! I'LL KILL YOU TOO, YOU FIEND!
STAY AWAY, OLD WOMAN! I'M WARNING YOU!
ARRRRRRR

ALL RIGHT, YOU DIRTY OLD WITCH, I WARNED YOU! MY FIST WILL SHOW YOU WHO'S BOSS!
SHE'S DEAD! AND WHAT'S THAT-HOUNDS? THEY'RE ON MY TRAIL I GOT TA GET OUTTA HERE!
WHOOOOOOOO WHOOOO WHOO-OOOO
SOOM.
THOSE HOUNDS-STILL ON MY TRAIL! BUT I CAN'T GO ANY FASTER BECAUSE OF THE BOGS! ONE WRONG STEP AND I'M A GONER!
B-BLOODHOUNDS! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! I GOT TO GET BACK TO THE MOOR AND SEE IF I CAN LOSE THEM IN THE BOGS!
WHOOOO OOOO
WHOOOO OOOO
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GO DEEPER INTO THE BOGS AFTER ALL! THEM BLOODHOUNDS ARE GETTING TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
SUDDENLY DEEVER HEARS A SHRILL SCREAM OF TERROR JUST AHEAD...
A MOOR PONY-CAUGHT IN THE BOGS!
NEIGHHH

UGH! WENT DOWN IN NO TIME! I GOTTA BE CAREFUL! EVEN THE ROPE IS BETTER THAN DEATH LIKE THAT!
DEEVER HEARS A SOUND BEHIND HIM THAT CHILLS HIS NERVES AS HE WHIRLS IN PANIC..
HUH! THAT CAT! BUT IT CAN'T BE- I KILLED IT BACK AT THE COTTAGE!
GROUGH- SPUTTERR SPITTT-
YOU AIN'T REAL! YOU'RE A GHOST CAT!
GRRRRRR RRRRRRR-
MOMENTS LATER...
GUESS I WAS JUST SEEING THINGS! NO SIGN OF THE CAT NOW! MUST'VE BEEN MY NERVES!
HA HA- MAYBE MY BULLETS CAN EVEN TAKE CARE OF A GHOST! TAKE THAT, YOU DEVIL!
BUT...
THE GHOST CAT AGAIN! BUT I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU THIS TIME!
ARRRRRR

GONE AGAIN! AND THOSE SHOTS WILL TELL THE COPS WHERE I AM! I REALLY GOT TO RUN FOR IT! NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THE BOGS!
I GOT TO THINK THIS OUT! ALL MY BULLETS GONE, WASTED ON THAT FIENDISH CAT! BUT THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY OUT-THERE'S JUST GOTTA BE! I DON'T WANT TO HANG!
WHILE NOT FAR BEHIND...
WE'LL HAVE HIM BEFORE LONG! THOSE SHOTS WILL GUIDE US TO HIM!
HE'S HEADING INTO THE BOGS AFTER ALL!
THOSE BOGS ARE MURDER TOO! IF DAN AIN'T CAREFUL, HE'LL SAVE US THE TROUBLE OF STRETCHING HIS ROTTEN NECK!
HOPE NOT! I WANT TO SEE HIM HANG FOR KILLING OL' BESS, POOR OL' SOUL!
THOSE DOGS ARE GETTING CLOSER ALL THE TIME! FORCING ME FARTHER INTO THE BOGS! BUT THEY WON'T GET ME! OTHER MEN HAVE GONE THROUGH THESE BOGS AND SO CAN I!
BUT...
HUH! A BIG STRETCH OF QUICKSAND- AND BOG HOLES ON BOTH SIDES! NO WAY AROUND! WHAT C-CAN I DO NOW?

I CAN'T JUST STAND -ERE! THOSE CURSED -OUNDS WILL BE SNAP-PING AT MY HEELS ANY MINUTE!
NOTHING TO DO, BUT - JUMP!
AHWOO-OOOOO
WHOO-OOOO
J-JUST MADE IT! I CAN PULL MYSELF OUT OF THE SAND-B-BUT THOSE DOGS NEVER GIVE UP! THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND ME!
YAAAAAA- THE CAT AGAIN! HAUNTING ME!
BY NOW THE PANTING CON-VICT IS IN A FRENZY OF FEAR! AND THEN HE SCREAMS IN TERROR.
GRRRRR

I'LL GET YOU THIS TIME, SEE IF I DON'T! I'LL WRING YOUR MANGY NECK TILL THERE AIN'T A GROWL LEFT IN YOU! YOU WON'T EVER BOTHER DAN DEEVER AGAIN!
H-HUH! OH, NO! N-NOT THE BOG! I-I'M STUCK! HELP!
HELP! QUICK, GUARDS! OVER HERE IN THE BOG! HURRY, PLEASE! DON'T LET ME DIE LIKE THIS! PLEASE---
IT'S DAN RIGHT ENOUGH! LOOKS LIKE THERE WON'T BE ANY HANGING TONIGHT! UGH! WHAT A DEATH!
FUNNY, THOUGH, THE PATH IS PLAIN ENOUGH HERE! WONDER HOW HE GOT OFF OF IT?
HELP!
YIIIIIEEEEEE
THE END

UNSPEAKABLY **LOATHSOME** CREATURES DANCE BENEATH A STARLESS SKY... MEN CROUCH IN TERROR BEFORE THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF **DOOM**... TO KNOW ALL EVIL AND CHAOS IS TO KNOW...

THE BLACKNESS of EVIL

SUDDENLY THE BLACK VOID IS SPLIT BY A CACKLING VOICE--

WALPURGIS NIGHT DRAWS NEAR, MY FRIEND! PERHAPS YOUR WISH SHALL BE GRANTED! PERHAPS ON THAT FATEFUL EVENING YOU SHALL MEET... YOUR ***DESTINY!***

NO ONE! BUT I ***DID*** HEAR A VOICE...THERE ***WAS*** SOMEONE HERE!

CARL--YOU FOOL! WHERE ARE YOU?

AS THE DAYS PASS, THE VOICE OF THE DECREPIT HAG GROWS LOUDER AND LOUDER...AND FINALLY ON WALPURGIS NIGHT, THE LUST TO KILL HAS CAPTURED CARL'S TORTURED MIND...

THE TIME HAS COME--MY HOPE IS NEAR! HEAR ME SPIRITS OF WALPURGIS... ***HEAR ME!***

A ROAR, A CLAP OF THUNDER, A SUDDEN STREAK OF LIGHTNING... AND CARL'S WISHES ARE MET!

WE COME, FRIEND OF DARKNESS!

...TO JOIN HANDS IN ***MURDER!***

LIKE ***PESTILENT*** SPIRITS FROM A ROTTING CORPSE, THE DEMONS OF WALPURGIS DANCE MADLY ABOUT CARL, URGING HIM ONTO HIS DEED OF DEATH!

KILL! KILL! BEFORE THIS NIGHT IS DONE YOU ***MUST*** KILL HIM!

YES, YES! I SHALL OBEY YOU! HE'S REACHED HIS TIME TO...

KEEP BACK! ...NO.. NO... NO!

DIE!

AARGHH-H.....

THE CLOCKMAKER SINKS TO THE FLOOR--HIS LIFE-BLOOD RAPIDLY EBBS--AND A FEARFUL OATH FALLS FROM HIS LIPS---

AS THE CLOCKS IN THIS SHOP STOP TICKING SO SHALL **ALL** CLOCKS--AND IT WILL BE WALPURGIS NIGHT **FOREVER! ONLY** WHEN **YOU** ARE DESTROYED WILL THE SPELL BE BROKEN---

TO REIGN FOREVER IS OUR WISH, YOU FOOL! MAY YOUR WORDS COME TRUE! COME, MY FRIENDS, TONIGHT WE ARE KINGS OF THE EARTH!

YES... LET US HURRY!

JUBILANT AT THE LONG HOURS OF **DEPRAVITY** BEFORE THEM, THE CREATURES RUSH FROM THE CLOCKMAKER'S SHOP TO HEAR...

ALL THE CLOCKS IN THE CITY HAVE **STOPPED!** THIS WALPURGIS NIGHT SHALL BE **ENDLESS!**

WE HAVE BEEN **DAMNED! YAAH-HH!**

HA! HA! KAFFNER'S CURSE IS REALLY A **BLESSING!** WE CAN DANCE THROUGH THE STREETS FOR ALL ETERNITY!

WE HAVE WON THE EARTH AT LAST!

RUN, MORTAL... RUN AND BOLT YOUR DOOR--THERE IS NO PLACE FOR MERE **MORTALS** IN THE CITY TONIGHT!

YAIEEE-E! DON'T COME NEAR ME!

WHILE ALL TIME REMAINS SUSPENDED IN THE RAIN-DRENCHED AIR, THE BLACK DEMONS--LED BY THEIR **NEW** INITIATE IN EVIL--ENGAGE IN A WILD AND MONSTROUS ORGY OF DARKNESS!

THE LIGHT OF DAY SHALL **NEVER** RETURN! WE TRIUMPH IN THE BLACKNESS OF EVIL!

IT IS RAINING HEAVILY! PERHAPS WE SHOULD SEEK SHELTER!
THE RAIN CANNOT HARM US! DANCE ON!

BUT AS THE RAIN CONTINUES IT BECOMES A DELUGE, AND..
WE SHALL DROWN HERE! IF TIME IS SUSPENDED--THEN IT WILL RAIN--- FOREVER!
WE MUST FIND SHELTER!

LET US INTO YOUR HOUSES! YOU CAN'T BOLT YOUR DOORS AGAINST US!
THEY FEAR US --THEY WILL NOT LET US IN!
THE WATER! THE WATER!!

FIERCELY--RELENTLESSLY--THE RAIN CONTINUES TO FALL UPON THE TERRIFIED CREATURES --- AND TIME STANDS STILL AND WAITS...
YA-AIEEEE-E!
QUICKLY-- OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO FLEE TO THE HILLS OUTSIDE THE CITY! OTHERWISE WE WILL DROWN!

WHAT MUST WE DO TO END THIS ETERNAL RAIN--THIS VENGEANCE OF THE HEAVENS??
WE HAVE BEEN TRAPPED BY THE CURSE OF YOUR DEAD MASTER! HIS SPELL MUST BE BROKEN!

HE SAID THAT HIS CURSE SHOULD BE ENDED ONLY WHEN YOU ARE DESTROYED!
YES!!
I--I DON'T REMEMBER! HE -- HE DIDN'T--!

GRIMLY, THE FIENDS OF THE NIGHT TURN ON CARL... AND SEE THE END OF THEIR MISERY!
THEN YOU MUST-- LOVE! OUR RACE CANNOT BE DESTROYED IN THE FLOOD!
NO! I HAVE SERVED YOU-- OBEYED YOU. YOU CAN'T KILL ME!
SEIZE HIM! HE MUST NOT GET AWAY!
NO NO O-O O-O-O
ARAGHH!

AS THE BONY FINGERS OF THE CREATURES CRUSH AND TEAR ALL LIFE FROM CARL MORICH, THE RAIN STOPS! AND AS TIME BEGINS AGAIN, THE FORCES OF EVIL FADE INTO THE BLACK VOID TO RETURN ANOTHER WALPURGIS NIGHT...!
WE SHALL COME BACK! EVIL MUST ALWAYS THRIVE IN THE MINDS OF MAN! WE SHALL COME... BACK...

THE CLOCKS ARE MOVING... WE CAN LIVE AGAIN!!
WALPURGIS NIGHT SHALL SOON BE OVER!!

AND IN THE CLOCKMAKING SHOP OF FREDERICK KAFFNER, THE MANY CLOCKS BEGIN TO TICK MERRILY ABOVE THE BODY OF THEIR CREATOR--TICKING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO ANOTHER WALPURGIS NIGHT!
TICK... TICK... TISK
THE END

ONCE THERE WERE FOUR SISTERS WHO INHERITED AN EERIE OLD HOUSE DEEP IN THE SWAMP COUNTRY, AND BEFORE THE FIRST NIGHT WAS OVER, SOME FOUND LOVE, SOME FOUND DEATH, AND ONE FOUND THE EVIL SECRETS OF THE OCCULT AND BECAME A...

DEAD WITCH

YES, ONCE THERE WERE FOUR SISTERS, AS DIFFERENT AS ANY SISTERS COULD BE! THE YOUNGEST WAS MARY, SWEET, PRETTY, AND SENSIBLE...

NEXT CAME PEARL, WITH THE FACE OF A CHINA DOLL, AND THE VAIN HEART OF A SPOILED CHILD...

THE THIRD WAS RUBY, SURE OF HERSELF, AND SURE THAT HER LOVELY BODY WOULD BRING HER WHATEVER SHE DESIRED.

AND LAST... BUT FAR FROM LEAST... THERE WAS ELVIRA, SILENT AND SHY, WITH STRANGE, DARK AND MYSTERIOUS EYES...

WHEN THE SISTERS ARRIVED TO TAKE OVER THE OLD HOUSE THEY FOUND HANDSOME YOUNG LAWYER JOHN BELL THERE TO HELP THEM. AND AS MARY LOOKED AT JOHN, SHE THOUGHT...
WHAT A KIND, CONSIDERATE PERSON I'--I HOPE I HAVE A CHANCE TO GET BETTER ACQUAINTED WITH HIM!
...AND SO I THOUGHT I'D STAY THE FIRST NIGHT HERE WITH YOU YOUNG LADIES AND HELP YOU GET SETTLED!

ELVIRA AND PEARL HAD THOUGHTS, TOO...
HANDSOME! BOTH SO WHAT STARTLING COUPLE WE'D MAKE
WHAT SHOULDERS! FOR A MAN, HIS FIGURE IS NEARLY AS MINE IS FOR A WOMAN! WHAT A WONDERFUL COUPLE WE'D MAKE!

BUT ELVIRA'S THOUGHTS WERE THE MOST STARTLING...
THIS IS THE MAN FOR ME! I'VE NEVER HAD A MAN INTERESTED IN ME...MY SISTERS ALWAYS STOLE THEM FROM ME! BUT THIS ONE IS MINE... IF I HAVE TO KILL FOR HIM!

BUT AS THE EVENING WORE ON...
LOOK AT THEM FAWNING OVER HIM AND I'M TOO SHY TO SAY HOW MUCH I LOVE HIM! I CAN'T WATCH THIS ANOTHER SECOND!

ELVIRA TURNED AND RAN DOWN A DARK PASSAGE, AND LATER...
DON'T LET THEM TAKE HIM! I'D DO ANYTHING TO STOP THEM! BUT WHAT CAN...

OOH-H!

A HIDDEN ROOM! IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE DEN OF SOME LONG-DEAD WITCH... AND YET I FEEL STRANGELY AT HOME HERE! AND THE GREAT BOOK ON THE TABLE... IT MUST CONTAIN...

And MOMENTS LATER.
I KNEW IT! THE DARKEST OF SECRETS ARE HERE...THE POWERS OF DARKNESS ARE MINE! I CAN DESTROY THEM, BUT I'LL GIVE THEM EACH ONE MORE CHANCE! THEN IF THEY DON'T LEAVE JOHN TO ME...

SO ELVIRA CHOSE TO APPROACH PEARL FIRST...
STAY AWAY FROM JOHN BECAUSE YOU WANT HIM? HA! HA! HE WOULDN'T LOOK AT YOUR UGLY FACE AFTER SEEING MINE! I'M GOING TO MARRY HIM! NOW GET OUT OF MY WAY! I'M GOING TO DRESS FOR DINNER!
I'M WARNING YOU, PEARL...

ALRIGHT THEN! I MUST DESTROY HER! AND I'LL DO IT IN A WAY TO MATCH HER OWN WORST FAULT... HER VANITY ABOUT HER FACE

MINUTES LATER, BACK IN THE HIDDEN ROOM...
FIRE, FIRE, TWIST AND TURN, SINGE AND SEAR AND BAKE AND BURN! STEAL HER BEAUTY, CHANGE HER FACE, LEAVE A CINDER IN ITS PLACE!

ABOVE, PEARL SAT ADMIRING HERSELF AS ELVIRA KNEW SHE WOULD BE, AND...
I AM LOVELY AND I'LL MAKE JOHN FALL FOR ME! WHAT'S THAT? SHINING...FLAMING IN THE MIRROR...

NO! NO! MY FACE! IT'S BURNING! IT'S... IT'S OLD! OLD! AND IT'S NOT A DREAM... I CAN FEEL IT CHANGING

I WON'T LIVE LIKE THIS! I'D RATHER DIE...AND I WILL!

EEEEEE!

HEARING THE BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM, JOHN AND THE OTHERS RUSHED IN, BUT...
GET OUT OF HERE YOU CAN'T HELP HER NOW... SHE'S DEAD!
AND HOW HORRIBLY DEAD! YET I SEE... HER FACE... SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG IN THIS HOUSE!

THIS IS A CASE FOR THE POLICE BUT THERE'S NO PHONE AND I WON'T LEAVE THE REST OF YOU ALONE! WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL MORNING!
OH, JOHN! YOU SAY SHE KILLED HERSELF! POOR DEAR LITTLE PEARL!

HALF HOUR LATER, ELVIRA CHOOSES HER SECOND VICTIM...
RUBY, DON'T YOU SEE? PEARL DIED BECAUSE OF JOHN! THE POWERS OF DARKNESS HAVE CHOSEN HIM, AND IT'S DEATH TO ANY WOMAN WHO...
NONSENSE! NEITHER PEARL'S DEATH, NOR YOUR GHOST STORIES WILL SCARE ME AWAY FROM JOHN! DON'T THINK I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU STARING AT HIM!

BUT HE'S BEEN DOING A LITTLE STARING OF HIS OWN... AT ME... I'M GOING TO CHANGE INTO THIS DRESS! WATCH HIS EYES POP!
HE'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN... ALIVE! AND AS FOR THAT BODY YOU'RE SO PROUD OF...

POWERS OF EVIL, DO MY WILL... SEND THY CREATURES TO THE KILL! YOU WHO FLY, AND CREEP AND CRAWL... COME ONE, AND COME YE ALL!

WAIT TILL JOHN SEES ME IN... GOOD HEAVENS!
BZZZ

GET AWAY FROM ME! HELP! PLEASE... HELP!

EEEEE

And FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER...
IT'S TOO AWFUL, JOHN... DID YOU SEE HER? SHE WAS EATEN ALIVE!
EASY, MARY! LISTEN...THERE'S SOMETHING HAPPENING HERE I CAN'T COPE WITH! I'M GOING OUT TO THE HIGHWAY AND SEE IF I CAN FLAG SOMEONE TO SEND FOR HELP! I'LL ONLY BE A FEW MINUTES!
A FEW MINUTES WILL BE ENOUGH!

HURRY JOHN!
NO USE TALKING TO HER... SHE LOVES HIM AND HE LOVES HER... BUT SHE WON'T HAVE HIM! THE BRAINY ONE...THE SENSIBLE ONE, IS SHE? WELL, WE'LL SEE JUST HOW BRAINY SHE CAN BE!

And A FEW MOMENTS LATER AS MARY SAT HUDDLED ALONE IN THE LIVING ROOM...
STRANGE! I SEEM TO BE DEVELOPING A TERRIBLE HEADACHE AND I NEVER HAVE THEM. IT'S WORSE! OH, HOW IT POUNDS!

OHHH! MY HEAD IS BURSTING! I CAN'T STAND IT! IT'S AS IF MY BRAIN WERE GROWING BIGGER AND BIGGER!
MARY! I THOUGHT OF SOMETHING AND CAME RIGHT BACK... MARY... WHAT IS IT?

MY HEAD! IT'S SPLITTING!
MARY, LISTEN! SUDDENLY I REALIZED THAT EVERY TIME ONE OF THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS HAPPENED, ELVIRA WAS MISSING! PERHAPS SHE... MARY! YOU MUST THINK! WHERE IS SHE NOW?

I THINK...SHE WENT DOWN THE PASSAGE...

COME ON! WE HAVE TO FIND HER BEFORE YOU...

JOHN AND MARY RACED INTO THE DARK PASSAGEWAY! SUDDENLY JOHN STOPPED...
WAIT! I HEAR HER VOICE! SHE'S IN BACK OF THIS... IT MUST BE A SECRET PANEL!

NO TIME TO FIND OUT HOW IT WORKS... I'LL HAVE TO BREAK IT IN!
OOHHH... PLEASE HURRY!

And WITH A CRASH...!
ELVIRA! STOP WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO MARY, OR I'LL...
SO, YOU FOUND ME! BUT IT ONLY MEANS SHE WILL DIE SOONER! KILL HER, ALL POWERFUL FLAME!

THE FLAME! IT'S COMING RIGHT AT ME!
NO, LOOK! IT'S TURNING BACK TOWARD ELVIRA!
EVIL ONE... MOST EVIL WOMAN THOU HAST EVER SEEN! KILL... NO! WAIT!

NOT ME! NO... NOT AAGGHH!
OHHH! HOW HORRIBLE!

SHE SAID, "KILL THE EVIL ONE", AND IT DID!
AND THE MOMENT SHE DIED, MY PAIN WAS GONE! I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND, JOHN!

WE'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND, MARY! LET'S JUST LEAVE THIS PLACE, BOTH OF US... AND NEVER COME BACK!
YES, JOHN, WE'LL LEAVE TOGETHER... AND WE'LL BE TOGETHER, FROM NOW ON!
the END

TO TAMPER WITH THE SECRETS OF LIFE IS TO INVITE THE COLD, **CLAMMY** HANDS OF **DEATH** ON YOUR SHOULDER...

THE MONSTER THAT BURNS

M-MASTER! NO! NO! IT CANNOT BE!

FOUL TRAITOR! IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO DISCOVER THE SECRET OF ETERNAL LIFE!

...AND THAT IS MY INSATIABLE TASTE FOR--DEATH--

...ANOTHER'S DEATH!!
AARGH-H!

AND SOON...IN THE DEPTHS OF THE HOUSE...
CAREFUL, TONIO, HE IS OF GREAT VALUE TO US!
YES, MASTER!

ANOTHER FINE SPECIMEN! PER-APS THE HORMONE EXTRACTED FROM HIS BODY, WILL GIVE ME THE SECRET OF ETERNAL LIFE I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR!

ALL THE OTHER FOOLS--LIKE HIM--HAVE HELPED TO MAKE ME INVULNERABLE TO DEATH! SOON I WILL KNOW IF I HAVE SUCCEEDED!

HAVING SERVED ITS TERRIBLE PURPOSE, THE BODY OF THE FORMER FRIEND IS THROWN INTO A BLAZING FURNACE...
TAKE CARE IT IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED! WE MUST LEAVE NO TRACE...
YES, MASTER!

BUT AS HIS MASTER LEAVES, A SINISTER SMILE PLAYS ABOUT THE SERVANT'S FACE...
YOU ARE THE FOOL, MASTER! THE HORMONE EXTRACT YOU ASKED ME TO DISCARD HAS BEEN PUT TO USE BY ME! WE SHALL SEE WHO WILL BE THE VICTOR!
TONIGHT, MY MASTER WILL BECOME LIKE THOSE MURDERED BY HIM! MERE DEAD FLESH FOR EXPERIMENT!
LATE THAT EVENING THE HIDEOUS SERVANT MOVES SILENTLY TOWARDS HIS MASTER'S ROOM, WHEN SUDDENLY...
WHO COULD THAT BE?
BRRNNGG
HELLO, TONIO!
MISTER STEVEN!
WHY, HELLO, STEVEN! I'M ALWAYS GLAD TO SEE MY FAVORITE NEPHEW... EVEN AT THIS UNEARTHLY HOUR!
I'M SORRY IF I WOKE YOU, UNCLE!
SEATED IN THE LIVING ROOM, THE OLD MAN'S THOUGHTS ARE NOT THOSE OF A LOVING UNCLE!
WHAT AN OPPORTUNE TIME FOR HIM TO CALL! HE MIGHT WELL BE MY LAST SPECIMEN!
AND WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING, UNCLE?

I'VE BEEN MAKING OUT MY WILL, STEVEN! OF COURSE YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY MAIN BENEFICIARY!
I DO!

IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DEATH MIGHT BE A LONG WAY OFF... A VERY LONG WAY OFF!!
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?

I AM A POOR MAN WHO LIKES EXPENSIVE THINGS, UNCLE...I SHOULD HATE HAVING TO WAIT ANY LONGER!

IN FACT, I DON'T INTEND TO WAIT.. AND SO, YOU MUST...
STEVEN! NO! DON'T!

WITH TERRIFYING SPEED, THE POKER COMES CRASHING DOWN!
...DIE!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY MASTER?
HE'S DEAD NOW, TONIO! SERVE ME IN HIS PLACE...AND I WILL SEE THAT YOU GET PART OF THE INHERITANCE!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER A GRUESOME LITTLE MAN ENTERS ON HIS DEADLY MISSION...

AND SO AMIDST THE ROARING FLAMES, ANIMAL SCREAMS OF AGONY BEAR WITNESS TO THE FACT THAT TO TAMPER WITH THE SECRETS OF LIFE IS TO BE REWARDED WITH THE HORROR OF DEATH!!

THE END...

GRAY, ENDLESS FOG--MURKY BOTTOMLESS WATER-- WHAT IS THE **BLACK** SECRET, THE HIDDEN **HORROR** THAT LURKS IN THE SEA!

HIDDEN HORROR

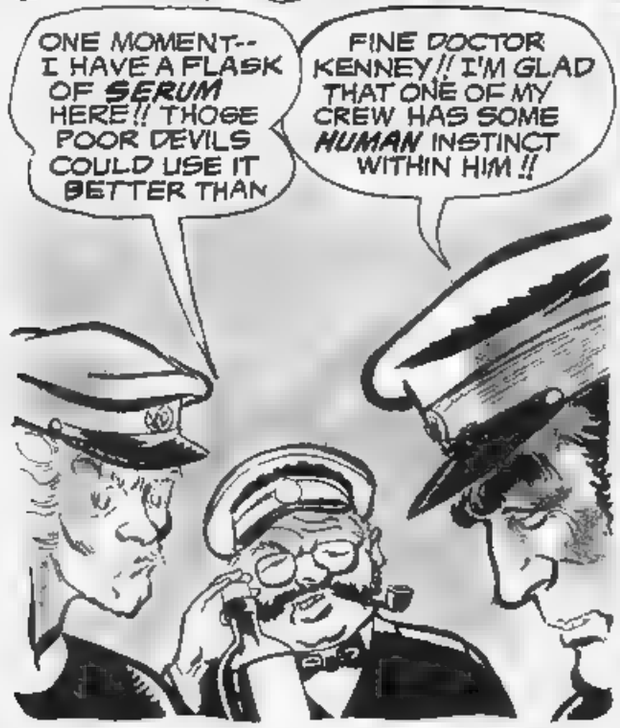
IN THE WATERS OF THE CARIBBEAN, A SHIP APPROACHES ONE OF THE MANY ISLAND PORTS...

THERE'S THE ISLAND, JARVIS! WE'VE MADE GOOD TIME! AND IF WE DELIVER OUR GOODS--

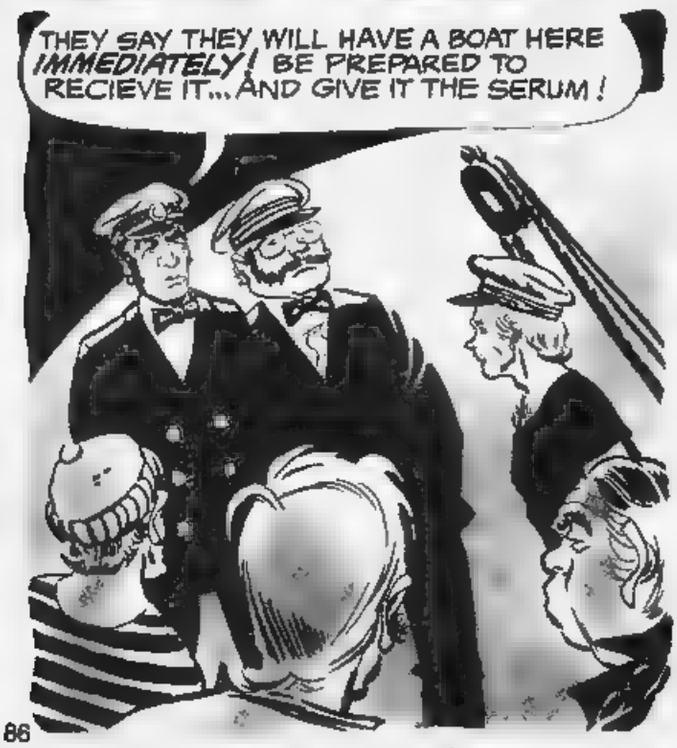
I BEG YOUR PARDON, CAPTAIN BATES, BUT THIS AREA **WORRIES** ME!! THERE'S A **SMELL** OF **SICKNESS** IN THE AIR!!

GO BACK!! YOU MUST NOT ENTER THE TOWN! THE **GRAY PLAGUE** HAS STRUCK ALL AND IS SPREADING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE!!

AT THE MENTION OF THE DREADED PLAGUE, THE FACES OF THE SHIP'S CREW TURN WHITE WITH TERROR...
THE GRAY PLAGUE!!
WE MUST LEAVE BEFORE WE TOO, ARE INFECTED!!
PERHAPS WE COULD DO SOMETHING TO HELP THESE PEOPLE!
WHY SHOULD WE PUT OUR LIVES IN DANGER FOR A HORDE OF NATIVE? LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!


ONE MOMENT-- I HAVE A FLASK OF SERUM HERE!! THOSE POOR DEVILS COULD USE IT BETTER THAN
FINE DOCTOR KENNEY!! I'M GLAD THAT ONE OF MY CREW HAS SOME HUMAN INSTINCT WITHIN HIM!!

ATTENTION PEOPLE OF THE ISLAND!! I HAVE A FLASK OF SERUM WHICH WILL SAVE MANY LIVES!! SEND A ROWBOAT AND IT'S YOUR?


THEY SAY THEY WILL HAVE A BOAT HERE IMMEDIATELY! BE PREPARED TO RECIEVE IT... AND GIVE IT THE SERUM!

THROUGHOUT THE CREW, A LOW AND SINISTER GRUMBLING BEGINS...
WE WON'T LET THAT DISEASED HEATHEN ON BOARD, CAPTAIN!
WE'LL CATCH THE PLAGUE FROM HIM!

THIS IS MUTINY, MR. JARVIS!
THEN CALL IT MUTINY!! THE MEN WILL STAND BY ME!

A SUDDEN BURST OF VIOLENCE-- AND THE SHIP CHANGES HANDS!
IT IS EASY TO TAKE OVER THE SHIP, MR. JARVIS, BUT THE PRICE YOU WILL PAY WILL BE A HEAVY ONE!!
SO BE IT THEN! I AM CAPTAIN NOW!!

OUR COURSE WILL BE DUE WEST-- AWAY FROM THIS LAND OF PESTILENCE!! THE SERUM WILL BE...

AS SUDDEN...AS THE MUTINY THAT ROCKED THE SHIP, A FIGURE COMES OUT OF THE FOG, HIS SKELETON ARMS RAISED IN A WILD PLEA FOR HELP!!
OH, GOOD CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP, SEND DOWN YOUR LIFE GIVING MEDICINE SO MY PEOPLE MAY NOT BE DESTROYED!! IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE!!

BE GONE, YOU SNIVELING WRETCH!! I HAVE CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT GIVING YOU THE SERUM! IT IS FOR MY MEN ONLY!!

NO!! NO!! COME BACK!! YOU CANNOT BE SO CRUEL AS TO DEPRIVE US OF OUR LIVES!!

IT'S ASTONISHING!! HIS BOAT SEEMS TO KEEP UP WITH US...
LOOK HOW HE ROWS SO FRANTICALLY!! THE FOOL!!

LISTEN, MY ANXIOUS LITTLE FRIEND IN THE ROWBOAT!! WE'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING YET--
WH--WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME??

WITH ONE STRONG PUSH, THE CAPTAIN TUMBLES OVERBOARD, HURTLING MADLY INTO THE WATER...
THE CAPTAIN--WITH MY COMPLIMENTS! HA! HA! HA!
YAAAHH!!

I SEE NOW! YOU ARE THE CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP! IT IS YOUR MEN WHO HAVE DEFIED YOU!
HELP ME INTO YOUR BOAT!

I HEAVE THIS CURSE UPON YOU MEN OF THE NEPTUNE... MAY THE TERRORS OF THE SEA AND THE NIGHT CONSPIRE TO DESTROY YOU!!

BUT ALL THE CURSE BRINGS IS HOLLOW LAUGHTER THAT ECHOES LIKE A VOICE FROM HELL...
HA! HA! HA!

A SHORT WHILE LATER, AS THE SHIP DRIFTS THROUGH THE WATER...
STORM CLOUDS AHEAD, JENSEN! LOOKS LIKE WE'RE HEADING FOR A BIG SQUALL!
AYE, AYE, MR. JARVIS!
BATTEN THE HATCHES, MEN!! THE STORM IS GROWING FIERCE!
WE'LL CRASH AGAINST THE ROCKS!!
WE'RE LOST!! LOST!!
THE SHIP IS CRIPPLED, SIR! I CAN'T STEER IT ANY MORE!!
WE MUST TRUST TO FATE NOW, MR. JENSEN! THERE IS NOTHING TO BE DONE!!
AS THE STORM SUBSIDES, THE FEARS OF THE MEN BECOME GREATER AS THE DREADFUL WHITENESS WRAPS ITSELF AROUND THEM...
WHERE ARE WE?? ALL I CAN SEE IS THE FOG!!
IT'S AS IF WE WERE CAUGHT IN A WHITE NET!
LAND!! I SEE LAND!! THERE'S AN ISLAND AHEAD OF US!
BARTON! GET THE BIG MEGAPHONE WORKING! SEE IF YOU CAN ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THAT ISLAND!
I'LL TRY, MR. JARVIS!!

A FEW LUSTY YELLS THROUGH THE MEGA-PHONE AND A MESSAGE COMES FLOATING BACK... BUT EACH WORD SERVES ONLY TO FREEZE THE BLOOD WITH WARNING OF IMPENDING DOOM!...
THIS IS THE ISLAND OF GUARNACA, THE PLAGUE THROUGHOUT THE ISLANDS HAS CEASED BUT DUE TO A SHORTAGE OF SERUM THE PEOPLE OF THE ISLAND OF GUARNACA HAVE ALL DIED LIKE FLIES...
THIS IS THE ISLAND WE LEFT! WE DRIFTED BACK TO IT IN THE STORM!
BUT HOW COULD IT HAPPEN?
CAN NOTHING BE DONE TO STEER THE SHIP AWAY FROM THAT ISLAND?
TURN! TURN!! THE WHEEL CAN'T BE BROKEN!!
SUDDENLY, THE SOUND OF A MUFFLED OAR BREAKS THE UNNATURAL SILENCE AND A BOAT APPEARS...
WHO'S THERE? SPEAK UP, BEFORE I HAVE YOU FIRED UPON!!
J-A-R-V-I-S!
IT IS I, YOUR CAPTAIN! YOU CAST ME OVERBOARD TO DIE OF THE PLAGUE WITH THE POOR PEOPLE OF THIS ISLAND! YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED... BUT NOW YOUR DEBT WILL BE PAID!!
FLEE, MY FINE CREW, FLEE!! THERE WILL SOON BE NO ESCAPE! N-O E-S-C-A-P-E!!

AH, BUT I HEAR MY FRIEND COMING TO TAKE MY PLACE! HE WILL DEAL WITH YOU IN THE PROPER FASHION!!

AS THE SOUND OF CAPTAIN'S BOAT FADES INTO THE NIGHT, ANOTHER BOAT APPROACHES FROM THE ISLAND...
THE CAPTAIN IS GONE!! BUT WHO IS COMING NOW TO PLAGUE US?

IT IS I, THE SNIVELING WRETCH WHOM YOU DENIED THE SERUM THAT WOULD HAVE SAVED MY ISLAND!! I HAVE BROUGHT YOU A GIFT FROM MY PEOPLE!!

WITH INHUMAN SPEED, THE GHOSTLY NATIVE MOUNTS THE ROPE THAT CARRIES HIM TO THE SHIPS RAIL-- AS THE CREW STANDS TRANSFIXED WITH HORROR!...
HE'S COMING ABOARD!!

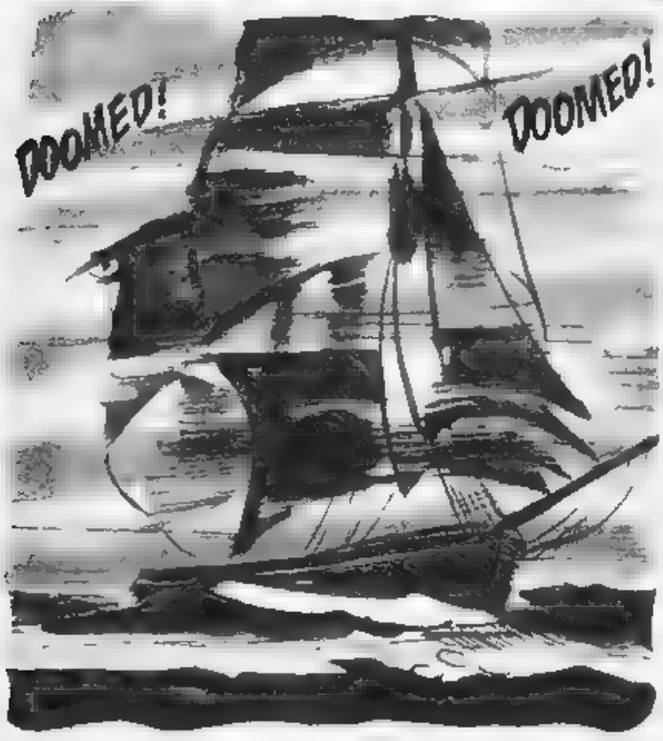
YOU REFUSED TO GIVE US THE FLASK OF SERUM THAT WOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE GRAY PLAGUE!! WE ARE NOT SO CRUEL, YOU SEE--WE HAVE BROUGHT YOU A FLASK THAT CONTAINS A GENEROUS PORTION OF--

--THE GERMS OF THE GRAY PLAGUE!

WITH ONE TRIUMPHANT GESTURE, THE NATIVE CRASHES THE FLASK TO THE DECK...
THERE!! IT IS DONE!!
CRAC

HE--HE'S GONE!! GONE!!
L-LOOK!! THE CLOUD OF THE GRAY PLAGUE!!

AS THE GRAY CLOUD SWEEPS OVER THE SHIP A DREADFUL CHANGE OCCURS IN THE MEN...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? MY HANDS--THEY SEEM TO BE SHRIVELLING LIKE A CORPSE'S!!
IT'S THE GRAY PLAGUE!! AHH-H-H-H!!


DOOMED!
DOOMED!

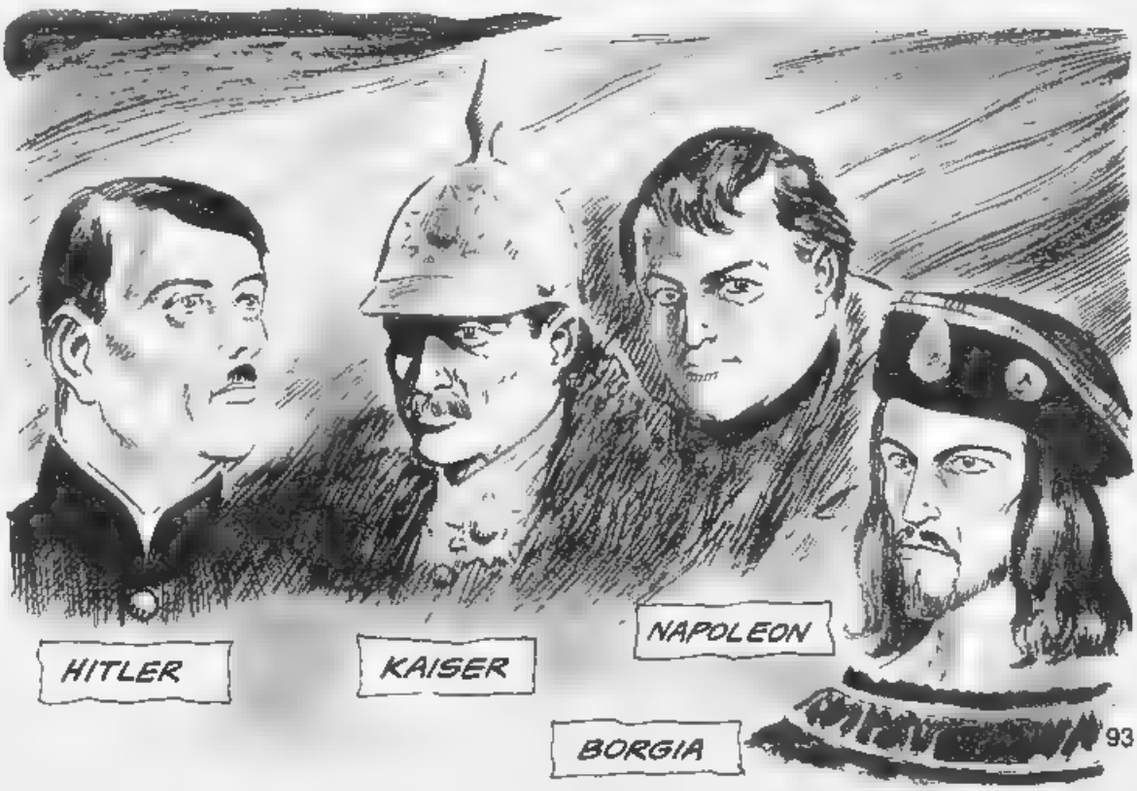
SOMEWHERE IN THE WATERS OF THE CARIBBEAN, ON NIGHTS WHEN THE AIR IS AS THICK AND WARM AS FRESH BLOOD, A SHIP DRIFTS ENDLESS
THERE IS NO PORT IN SIGHT-- AND THERE NEVER WILL BE!!
The End

THE VAMPIRE FLIES

THE GREED FOR POWER CAN CREATE, DESTROY AND HORRIFY BUT BALUK KHAN, THE CONQUEROR THOUGHT NOTHING COULD WITHSTAND HIS MIGHT... THE ONLY THING HE FORGOT WAS THAT NO ONE COULD CONQUER...

OSCAR FRAGA

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A MURDERER'S FACE? NOTHING TERRIBLE ABOUT IT, IS THERE? THEY ARE MEN! AND THESE WERE MEN, TOO! BUT LOOK CLOSELY... ISN'T THERE SOMETHING ABOUT THEM? SOMETHING THAT SAYS THEY ARE KILLERS!



OF COURSE THEY WERE! AND WHAT WAR DO YOU THINK WAS THE WORST?

VIETNAM? KOREA? WORLD WAR II? OR WORLD WAR I?

...OR WAS THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES THE MOST TERRIBLE? SURELY, MEN DIED, BLOOD WAS SPILLED, BODIES WERE MAIMED... TERROR WAS BORN...

LET'S GO, BOYS! GET THOSE REBS! GET 'EM!

AND TURN BACK THE PAGES OF TIME! TURN BACK TO THAT FROZEN DAY WHEN NAPOLEON FOUGHT AGAINST THE RISING TIDE OF HIS SIBERIAN FOES...

BUT EVEN BEFORE HIM... WHEN MEDIEVAL BARONS FOUGHT TO THE DEATH FOR POWER AND LOOT... EVEN THEN WERE THERE NOT GROANS AND SCREAMS AND SHRIEKS?...

YES... BUT NO WHERE... AT NO TIME... WAS THERE SUCH A MORE HORRIBLE FOE THAN THE HORDE! THE HORDE WHO RODE AGAINST NATIONS... AND LEFT NOT EVEN A BLADE OF GRASS... THE HORDE OF WAR! THE HORDE OF DEATH!

T-THEY COME!

DOWN THROUGH THE PLAINS OF MONGOLIA... RACING THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS OF TURKESTAN AND THE FROZEN STEPPES OF BLACK CATHAY AND TIBET... SURMOUNTING THE MIGHTY WALLS OF BLACK CATHAY AND CHINA... THEY CAME... CUTTING, KILLING, TORTURING, BURNING, CRUSHING...
FLEE! WE CANNOT FIGHT THEM! FLEE... OR WE SHALL BE CUT DOWN!
TOO LATE! THEY ARE UPON US! HAVE MERCY! MERCY!

HA, HA... MORE SWINE TO AMUSE OURSELVES WITH! KILL! KILL!

KILL!
EEEE
EE

AND WHO WAS THEIR LEADER? WHO WAS THIS MIGHTY CONQUEROR ...THIS RUTHLESS MASTERMIND OF THE HORDE! A LITTLE-KNOWN NAME, DEAR READER! A NAME THAT WOULD SEND SHIVERS OF FEAR DOWN YOUR BACKS HAD YOU KNOWN HIM PERSONALLY! BALUK KHAN, THE DESTROYER! BALUK KHAN, THE RIGHT ARM OF GENGHIS KHAN!

LET NO STONE BE UNTURNED! KILL MEN, WOMAN, AND CHILDREN! FROM THIS MOMENT ON, THIS VILLAGE WILL NO LONGER EXIST! NAY, NOT EVEN ONE BLADE OF GRASS!

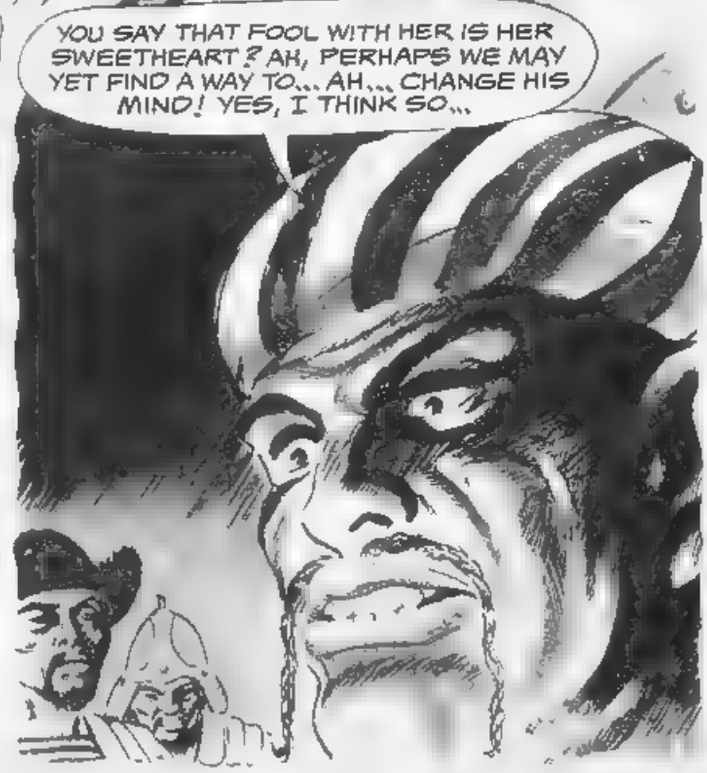
AND HE MURDERED, AND HE KILLED, AND HE TORTURED! AND THE RIVERS RAN RED WITH BLOOD...
THE TARTARS ARE VANQUISHED! THEIR LANDS, HERDS, POSSESSIONS, EVERYTHING! NOW IT'S MINE! MINE!
AND NOW... FOR THE PROVINCE OF UZRUK!
GOTH
UZRUK
PAHND
UZRUK... LAND OF THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE! A LAND RULED BY AN OLD MONARCH... A MAN NO MATCH FOR THE SAVAGE BARBARIANS TO COME...
WHY SO SAD FATHER? WHAT HAS RUINED THY HAPPINESS?
I FEAR FOR OUR LIVES, LARLA! YEA... FOR EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND BABE IN OUR FAIR LAND! BALUK APPROACHES OUR DOMAIN!
I HAVE HEARD OF HIS CRUELTY AND HIS HORDE! OUR SOLDIERS WILL BE NO MATCH FOR HIM! COULDN'T WE WIN HIM OVER BY KINDNESS AND BY FRIENDSHIP?
WE MIGHT USE BRIBERY, WHERE MIGHT CANNOT SUCCEED! HMMMMM...
HO, RENZOR... VARIAN... TOPAK! CALL OUR PEOPLE TOGETHER! WE MUST GIVE BALUKA A GIANT FEAST! MAKE PREPARATIONS AT ONCE! HURRY!
YES, OH LORD! WE SHALL DO SO WITH ALL HASTE!

AND SO A GIANT CELEBRATION WAS ARRANGED... IN HONOR OF THEIR "PROTECTOR" AND THEIR "FRIEND" THE MIGHTY BALUK KHAN...
MORE WINE! QUICKLY!
Y-YES GREAT CONQUERER!

BALUK LOVED TO EAT...
...FOOD! WHAT COULD BE BETTER? BRING MORE!

...AND BALUK LOVED WOMEN...
YOU ARE INDEED VERY BEAUTIFUL, MY LITTLE FLOWER!

BUT WHEN BALUK SAW LARLA, HIS HEART WAS LOST...
WHO IS THAT? I MUST KNOW! I MUST HAVE HER!
SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE UZRUK KING! AND THE MAN WITH HER IS HER BETHROTHED!

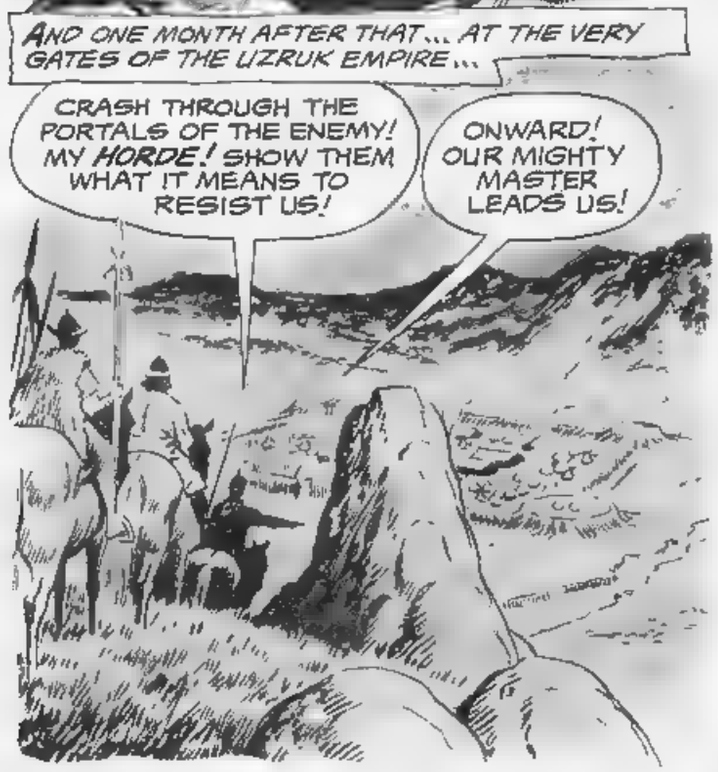

YOU SAY THAT FOOL WITH HER IS HER SWEETHEART? AH, PERHAPS WE MAY YET FIND A WAY TO... AH... CHANGE HIS MIND! YES, I THINK SO...

AND BALUK MEANT EVERY WORD HE SAID...
BUT WHERE DO YOU GO, BROTHER? ARE YOU NOT SATISFIED WITH THE FEAST IN YOUR HONOR?
WE CANNOT SIT IN THE CAMP OF THOSE WHO HAVE THE SCOURGE UPON THEM BEHOLD!

BUT YOUR COMING DID NOT GIVE US TIME TO...
DO NOT REPLY WITH EXCUSES! WE ARE LEAVING! THE VAMPIRE FLIES OF DEATH SHALL NOT TOUCH US!
GOOD! NOW I HAVE CREATED A BASIS FOR WAR!

A FEW WEEKS LATER, IN THE TENT OF LARLA'S BETROTHED...
ARRGHH!

AND SOON AFTERWARDS... DEATH FOR THE KING'S BODYGUARD BY MYSTERIOUS ASSAILANTS...
THIS IS FOR KHAN!


AND ONE MONTH AFTER THAT... AT THE VERY GATES OF THE UZRUK EMPIRE...
CRASH THROUGH THE PORTALS OF THE ENEMY! MY HORDE! SHOW THEM WHAT IT MEANS TO RESIST US!
ONWARD! OUR MIGHTY MASTER LEADS US!

NONE COULD ESCAPE...
UGH-H... AT LEAST... I SHALL NOT DIE... IN DISGRACE, LARLA! KILL YOURSELF, MY CHILD! TO LIVE WILL BE WORST THAN DEATH...
NO, FATHER! I SHALL LIVE LONG ENOUGH FOR REVENGE! HE SHALL NOT ESCAPE MY WRATH!

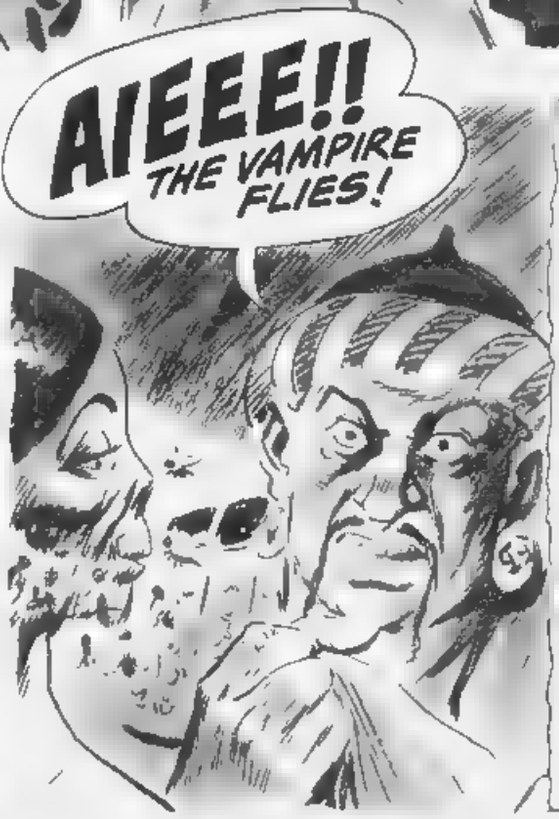
SO THE HORDE SWEPT THROUGH ANOTHER LAND ONCE MORE... RUTHLESSLY, INVINCIBLY... UNTIL THEY FACED A SILENT GIRL ON A SOMBER THRONE...
YOU AWAIT ME IN BRIDAL SPLENDOR, MY DOVE!

YOU WILL NOT SAY A WORD AGAINST ME, EH! I AM PLEASED! HERE IS MY KISS TO YOU, LARLA! MY LOVE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF!
HAIL TO OUR KHAN!

BEHOLD MY NEW BRIDE! MY VALIANT SOLDIERS! RAISE YOUR CRIES OF VICTORY TO HER!
BUT SHE APPEARS SILENT, MIGHTY ONE! IT IS A BAD OMEN! MAKE HER SPEAK!

BAH! I SHALL DO BETTER THAN THAT! I SHALL KISS HER AGAIN SO THAT SHE MAY KNOW THE POWER OF MY LOVE! SPEAK NOW, OH BELOVED! THY MASTER COMMANDS THEE!

WHAT? YOU DARE DISOBEY? SPEAK I SAID... OR I SHALL CUT OUT THY TONGUE WITH MY OWN DAGGER!


AIEEE!! THE VAMPIRE FLIES!

YES, MIGHTY CONQUEROR! YOUR HORDE AND YOUR WEAPONS, AND YOUR CUNNING ARE POWERFUL INDEED! BUT YOU HAVE MET AN ENEMY SMALLER THAN YOUR THUMB!
The End

HOUSE OF BLOOD

IT STARTED WITH A SIMPLE LITTLE QUARREL AND ENDED IN FEAR AND HORROR! THE OLD HOUSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN WAITING TO POUNCE, LIKE SOME PREHISTORIC MONSTER, ON THE ILL-FATED COUPLE! SO IF IT'S THRILLS AND CHILLS YOU WANT, IF YOUR BLOOD NEEDS CURDLING, READ ON, IF YOU DARE! FOR THIS IS THE STORY OF **THE MURDEROUS JOKE...**

SUE AND JOHN TRENT ARE HAVING A VIOLENT QUARREL...

I HATE YOU! I REALLY DO! YOU'RE STUBBORN AND, OH, I JUST SIMPLY HATE YOU!

YOU'RE NO BARGAIN, YOU KNOW! WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME TO MOTHER AS YOU'RE ALWAYS THREATENING TO DO!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

MOTHER, THIS IS SUE! I'VE HAD A QUARREL WITH JOHN! I HATE HIM! I'M COMING FOR A VISIT WITH YOU!

SWELL WITH ME! I'LL EVEN DRIVE YOU!

BUT WHEN SUE GOES TO PACK...
HELLO, MORRIS... JOHN TRENT. I WANT A FAVOR. I'VE HAD A FIGHT WITH SUE AND I WANT TO TEACH HER A LESSON. YOU KNOW THE HAUNTED HOUSE ON SPRING ROAD, WELL...
HA HA. SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA, JOHN. GLAD TO DO IT. WE'LL GIVE HER A GOOD SCARE. SEE YOU THERE.
HA HA. JOHN SURE HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR. THIS WILL MAKE HIM LOOK LIKE A HERO. NOW IF I CAN BE A CONVINCING HOST.
LATER THAT NIGHT AS JOHN DRIVES SUE TO HER MOTHERS HOUSE...
JOHN, WHY ARE WE GOING THIS WAY? YOU'VE NEVER TAKEN THIS ROAD BEFORE.
IT'S A SHORT CUT, THAT'S WHY. I WANT TO GET RID OF YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BUT ACCORDING TO PLAN.. JOHN FINDS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CAR...
THIS IS FINE. A MILLION MILES FROM NOWHERE AND THE CAR STALLS.
NOW WHAT? BLAST IT. IT MUST BE THAT NEW IGNITION COIL. LISTEN TO IT SPUTTER.
THE CAR GLIDES TO A HALT BEFORE A DESERTED OLD MANSION THAT HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING HAUNTED...
COME ON, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN. WE CAN TAKE COVER IN HERE.
I D-DON'T KNOW. YOU KNOW THE STORIES ABOUT THIS OLD HOUSE. WASN'T THERE A MURDER HERE?

CARRYING OUT HIS PLAN TO TEACH SUE A LESSON, JOHN TRENT PUSHES OPEN THE CREAKING DOOR...
YES, I THINK A MURDER WAS COMMITTED HERE! SO WHAT? YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS?
I- I DON'T KNOW! I JUST KNOW THAT I DON'T LIKE IT HERE!
SUDDENLY...
WHOOOOEE
JOHN, LISTEN! W-WHAT WAS THAT?
HUH! I DON'T KNOW!
AS HE HAD EXPECTED, HIS WIFE LEAPS INTO HIS ARMS IN FEAR...
HA HA! MORRIS IS DOING A FINE JOB! THAT GROAN SOUNDED GHASTLY!
DON'T WORRY! PROBABLY ONLY THE WIND!
HOW COULD THAT HORRIBLE SOUND BE THE WIND? THERE ISN'T ANY WIND!
OOOOHHHH
JOHN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE ME ALONE!
I'M GOING UPSTAIRS! I'M NOT AFRAID OF GHOSTS EVEN IF YOU ARE, BUT I'M CURIOUS!
THE SCHEME IS WORKING! SUE FORGETS ABOUT GOING HOME TO MOTHER! SHE IS VERY IMPRESSED WITH JOHN'S COURAGE...
JOHN, YOU'RE SO BRAVE, AND I'M SCARED TO DEATH!
DON'T WORRY, SWEETHEART, I WON'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU!
AS THE REACH THE TOR OF THE STAIRS...
LOOK! A MAN'S LEGS STICKING OUT THAT DOOR! HE LOOKS D-DEAD!
GREAT SCOTT I DIDN'T COUNT ON THIS!
THE BODY IS THAT OF MORRIS, JOHN'S FRIEND.
JOHN, THAT'S MORRIS SLATTERY, BUT HOW.
I DON'T KNOW! BUT IT IS MORRIS, AND HE IS DEAD!

SUE BEGINS TO SUSPECT SOMETHING FISHY..
WHAT'S GOING ON, JOHN TRENT? WHAT WAS MORRIS DOING HERE? WAS THIS SOME KIND OF A JOKE?
Y-YES! B-BUT IT'S NO JOKE NOW! WE'VE GOT TO CALL THE POLICE!
WE WANTED TO SCARE YOU, DEAR! TO KEEP YOU FROM LEAVING ME! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I REALLY LOVE YOU! BUT WHO COULD HAVE KILLED HIM?
JOHN! LOOK OUT! THAT OLD WOMAN.
SUDDENLY, FROM BEHIND THEM, THERE IS A TERRIBLE CACKLING LAUGH...
HUH! WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT AXE?
HEH-HEH-HEH! YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!
I KILLED YOUR FRIEND AND I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! JUST THE WAY I KILLED THE OTHERS!
SUE, TERRIFIED OUT OF HER WITS, RUNS FOR THE DOOR..
JOHN! RUN... RUN! SHE'S INSANE!
SAVE YOURSELF! I'LL HOLD HER UNTIL YOU GET TO THE CAR! THEN I'LL JOIN YOU!
BUT SUE SLIPS ON THE CRUMBLING OLD STAIRS...
EEEEEEEK- FALLING!

AND GOES CRASHING DOWN AS A HORRIBLE SCREAM RINGS OUT FROM THE ROOM ABOVE...
OH, NO, PLEASE YAAAAA-
THERE IS A SNAPPING SOUND AS THE WOMAN'S FRAGILE NECK IS BROKEN...
HEH-HEH... THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY, DID YOU!
A TERRIBLE SILENCE DESCENDS ON THE OLD HOUSE, WHILE IN THE GORY ROOM ABOVE...
HEE-HEE-- DEAD AS A DOORNAIL! I CHOPPED HIM UP JUST LIKE THE OTHERS!
THERE IS A SUDDEN WAIL OF SIRENS IN THE NIGHT, AND OUTSIDE...
HO-HO! THE POLICE AFTER ME AGAIN! THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHERE TO LOOK, CURSE THEM!
CAREFUL BOYS, YOU KNOW HOW CRAZY SHE IS!
EASY NOW, GRANNY! GIVE ME THAT AXE!
COME ALONG NOW, YOU KNOW YOU HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE ASYLUM!
TAKE YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF ME!
LATER AFTER THE BODIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE MORGUE AND THE OLD WOMAN RETURNED TO THE LUNATIC ASYLUM...
WHAT ON EARTH WERE THOSE PEOPLE DOING IN THAT OLD HOUSE?
WE'LL NEVER KNOW! BUT THE OLD LADY, THAT'S DIFFERENT! SHE GOES THERE EVERY TIME SHE ESCAPES FROM THE ASYLUM!
POLICE
SHE MURDERED HER HUSBAND THERE YEARS AGO, THEN WENT INSANE! SHE STILL THINKS HER HUSBAND IS ALIVE AND LIVING IN THAT HOUSE! SHE ALWAYS GOES BACK TO KILL HIM! IF OTHER PEOPLE GET IN THE WAY, WELL...

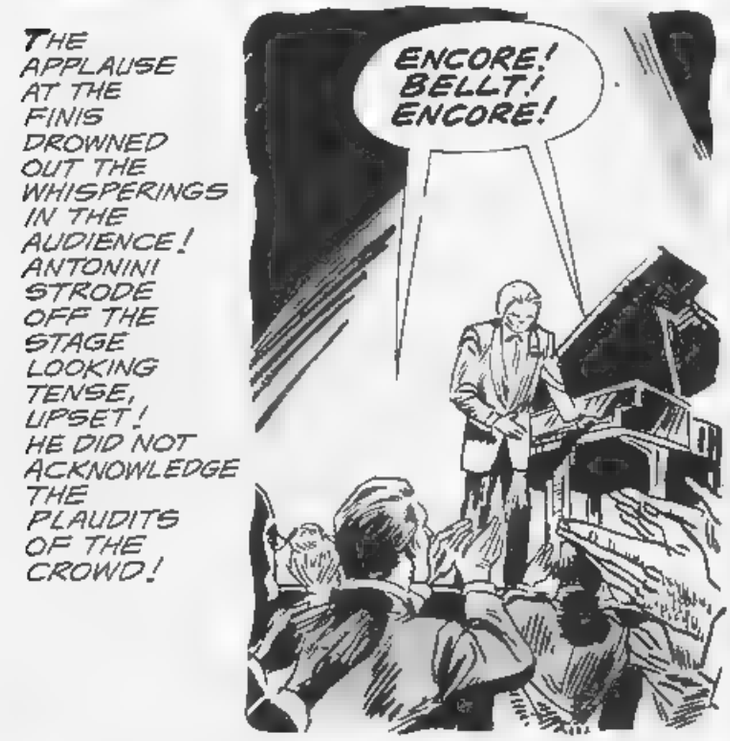
FINGERS OF DOOM

FROM THE WINGS OF THE NINDLEM CONSERVATORY, THE SWARTHY PONDEROUS, BETTLE-BROWED PRAVOK MUTTERED IN GLOWING AGITATION AS HIS EYES GLOWERED AT THE SLENDER FIGURE UPON THE STAGE!

ONSTAGE, ANTONINI BELLT TOUCHED THE KEYBOARD OF HIS INSTRUMENT LIKE RAYS OF LIGHT AND MUSIC LEAPED INTO VIBRANT LIFE... BUT TO WHOM WAS HE TALKING, COULD IT BE... HIS OWN HANDS?

FOR AN INSTANT FEAR CROSSED THE YOUNG PIANIST'S FACE AND THEN HE SPOKE SHARPLY!
DIVIDI, NO! IT IS NOT YOUR TURN TO PLAY! LET POMPO ALONE! Y-YOU-- YOU JEALOUS FOOL!

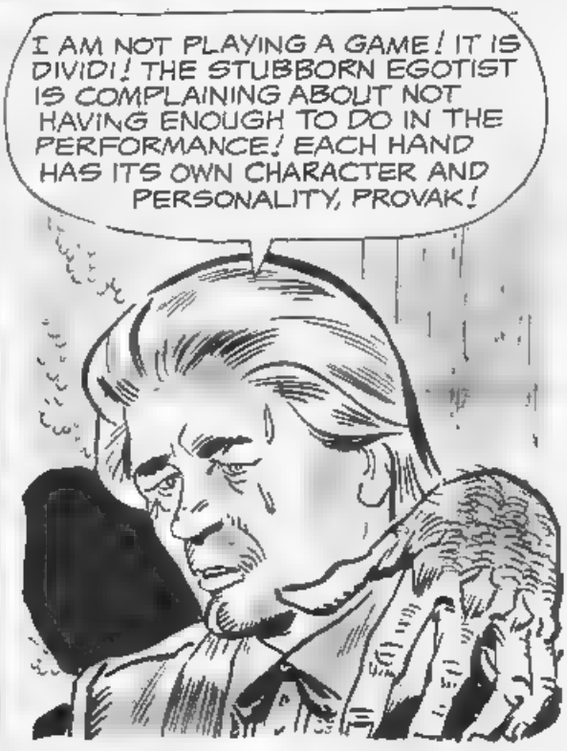
THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT YOUNG MAN!
TO WHOM WAS HE SPEAKING?

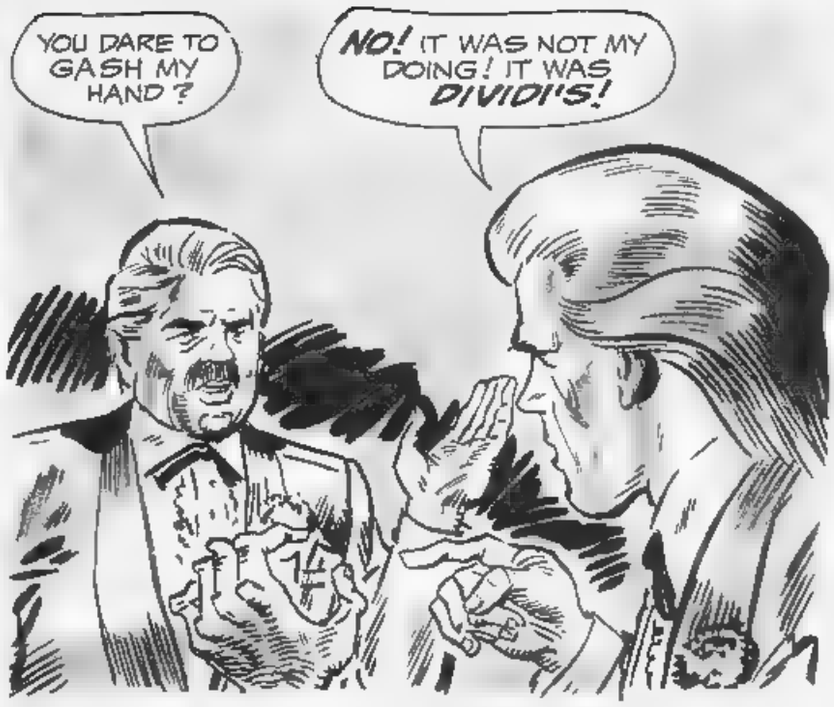

THE APPLAUSE AT THE FINIS DROWNED OUT THE WHISPERINGS IN THE AUDIENCE! ANTONINI STRODE OFF THE STAGE LOOKING TENSE, UPSET! HE DID NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE PLAUDITS OF THE CROWD!
ENCORE! BELLT! ENCORE!

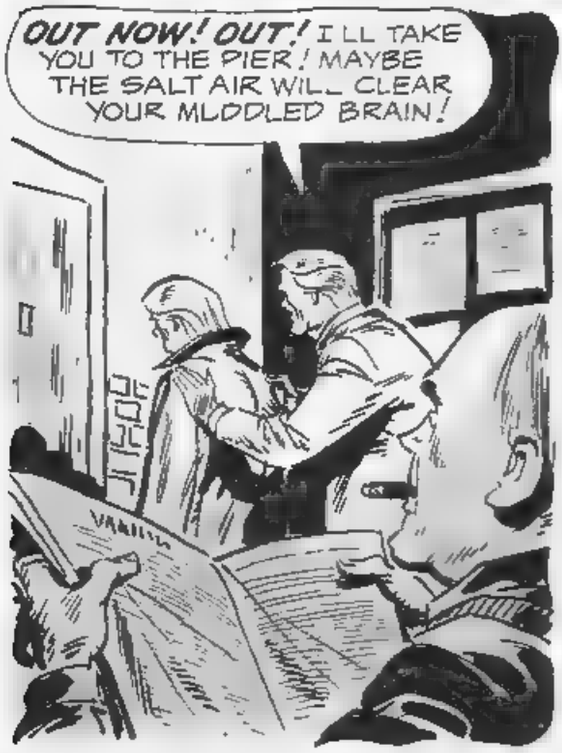
GO BACK! PLAY AGAIN--PLAY AGAIN, I SAY!
NO... NO! I CAN'T DO IT!

I'LL TEACH YOU TO DISOBEY ME!
UHH!

THE IMPRINT OF HIS HUGE BLUBBERRY HAND STOOD OUT ON THE CRINGING BOY'S CHEEK!
THIS IS NOT A GAME! I HAVE NOT PICKED YOU UP FROM THE GUTTER, SWEATED OVER YOU TO THEN HAVE YOU RUIN EVERYTHING!

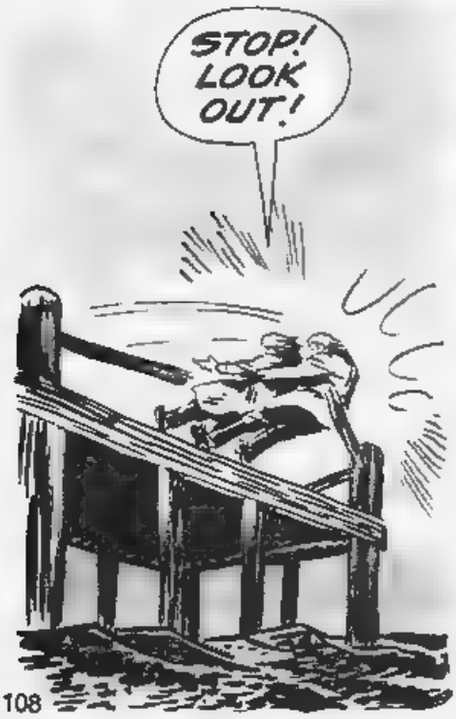

I AM NOT PLAYING A GAME! IT IS DIVIDI! THE STUBBORN EGOTIST IS COMPLAINING ABOUT NOT HAVING ENOUGH TO DO IN THE PERFORMANCE! EACH HAND HAS ITS OWN CHARACTER AND PERSONALITY, PROVAK!



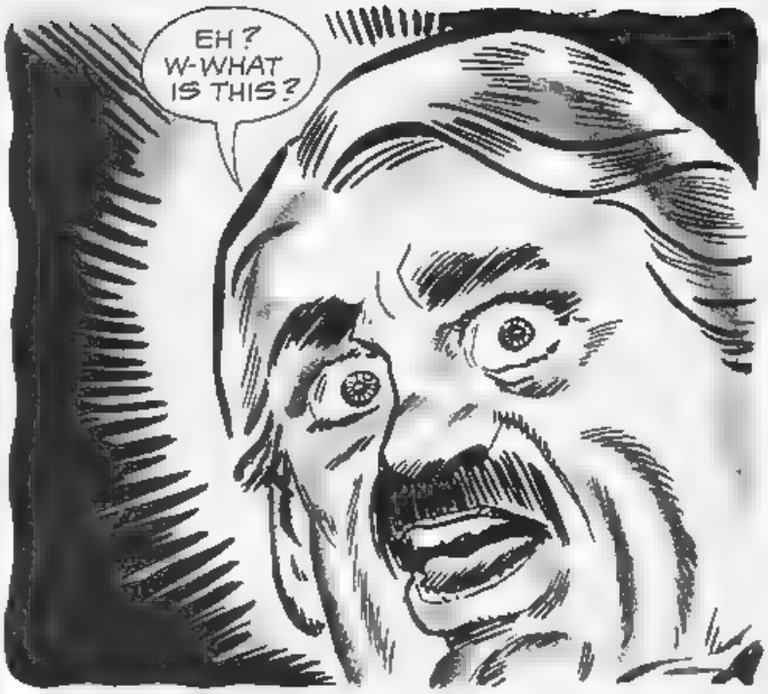


PROVAK DRAGGED THE BOY OUT OF THE CONSERVATORY INTO THE DAMP FOGGY NIGHT! AT THE WATERFRONT, HE SHOUTED AT THE TOP OF HIS LUNGS, THREATENED, CAJOLED!

THE TEARS QUIVERED ON THE BOY'S LIDS, FEELING THAT HE WAS MAKING NO IMPRESSION, PRONAK SEIZED HIM, AND...



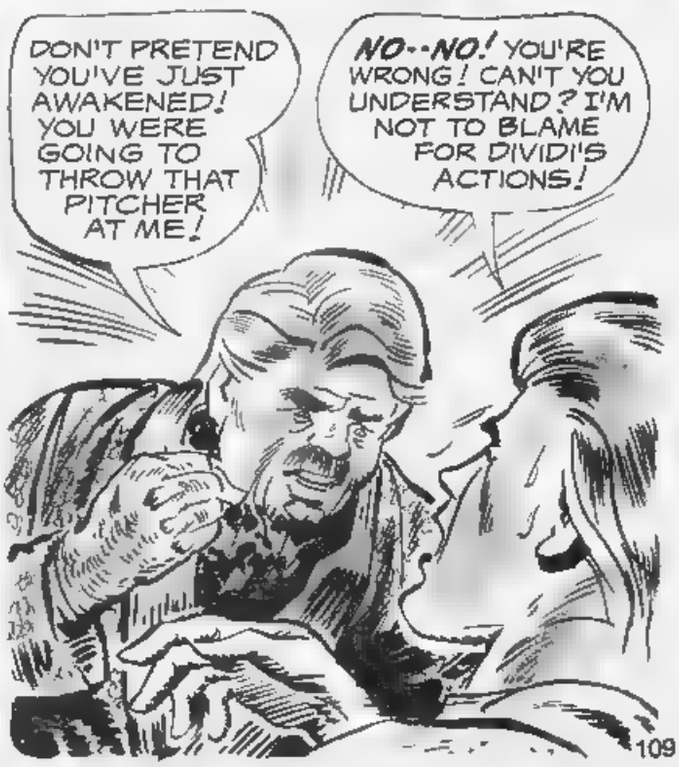
AT THE HOTEL PROPRIETOR SAW TO IT THAT THE BOY WAS CAREFULLY UNDRESSED, AND PUT TO BED.
ASLEEP. GOOD. I WAS FEARFUL OF A CHILD'S A FEVER.


EH? W-WHAT IS THIS?

BEFORE HIS HORRIFIED EYES HE WATCHED THE BOY'S LEFT HAND, SEEMINGLY WITH LIFE OF ITS OWN, CRAWLING TO THE ICE-WATER PITCHER ON THE TABLE!

STOP IT! GET AWAY FROM THAT!

AIEEE!! W-WHAT IS HAPPENING? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?


DON'T PRETEND YOU'VE JUST AWAKENED! YOU WERE GOING TO THROW THAT PITCHER AT ME!
NO--NO! YOU'RE WRONG! CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I'M NOT TO BLAME FOR DIVIDI'S ACTIONS!

YOU'RE NOT TO BLAME, EH? ALL RIGHT-- I'LL SEE THAT YOUR HAND DOESN'T GET INTO ANY MORE TROUBLE!

PROVAK GRABBED THE HAND AND BOUND HIS HAND AROUND IT!
THERE! IT WILL DO NO MISCHIEF! AND SHOULD YOU DARE REMOVE IT... I WILL PLACE YOU IN A STRAIT JACKET! IT WILL BE FREED ONLY FOR PRACTICE!

THE PASSING DAYS WERE LIKE A NIGHTMARE OF VIGILANCE FOR PROVAK! ONE DAY, TWO DAYS, THREE DAYS, HE RESTRAINED THE WILD THRASHING OF THE BELIGERENT HAND!

THEN, THE LONG AWAITED DAY OF THE BIG CONCERT! FOR A RARE MOMENT, THE IMPRESSARIO WAS IN AN EXPANSIVE MOON! THE TIME FOR HIS TRIUMPH AND ARRIVED!
THE HOUSE IS PACKED! THE GLITTER OF THE WEALTHY, THE FAMOUS NAMES--THE ROYALTY! AFTER THIS, THERE SHALL BE LUXURY! AHHHHHH!
WHY ARE YOU SITTING THERE LIKE THAT? WHY ARE YOU NOT DOING YOUR FINGER EXERCISES TO LIMBER UP?
DIVIDI REFUSES TO PLAY TONIGHT!

I--I CAN DO NOTHING! I AM POWERLESS! SEE FOR YOURSELF! BELIEVE ME!

THE FINGERS WERE GROTESTQUELY CURLED! PROVAK WENT WILD AT THAT INSTANT! HE RAISED HIS HAM-LIKE FISTS AND...
SO YOU WON'T PLAY? I-I'LL SHOW YOU!
NO PROVAK! DON'T! I BEG YOU!

... STRUCK DOWN UPON THE OBJECT OF HIS MALEVOLENCE!
AND AGAIN--AGAIN--AND AGAIN!
YIII!!

THE BOY SUFFERED FROM THE HAMMERING BLOWS! HE TRIED TO WITHDRAW HIS HAND--BUT HE SLIPPED OUT OF CHAIR AND FELL! PROVAK FELL UPON HIM! THEN THE LAD LAPSED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS!
OHHH!

MY HEART! EXERTION--TOO MUCH!

THE PONDEROUS IMPRESARIO LAY BACK, BREATHING HEAVILY--GASPING AND INERT, HE WAS MOMENTARILY HELPLESS! HE COULD NOT MOVE A MUSCLE IN HIS BODY! SUDDENLY...
AIEEE!!

THERE WAS SOMETHING UPON HIS CHEST, SOMETHING CRAWLING, **CRAWLING**-- TOWARD HIS THROAT! HE TRIED TO MOVE TO RAISE HIMSELF, BUT NOT A NERVE INSIDE HIM WOULD RESPOND!

GET AWAY! **GET AWAY!**

NO! NO---ANTONINI! STOP IT!

HIS CRIES WENT UNHEEDED! THE BOY'S EYES WERE CLOSED, HIS BODY IN RESPOSE ... EXCEPT FOR **DIVIDI-- THE LEFT HAND!** THE GRIP TIGHTENED LIKE STEEL! THE HAND HAD A STRENGTH THE BOY NEVER POSSESSED!

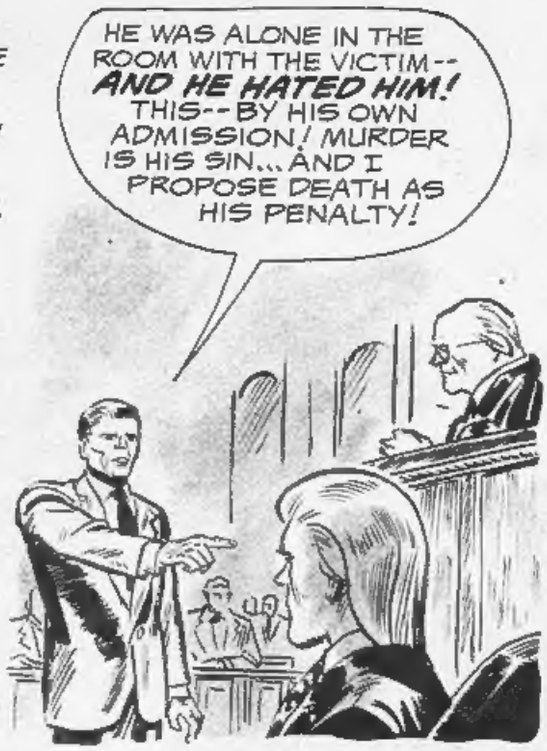
GAHHHH!

THE SCREAM BECAME A HOARSE MUFFLED CRY-- THE CRY A WHIMPER... A COUGH... AND THEN, **SILENCE!** SOME TIME LATER, THE BOY OPENED HIS EYES AND BECAME AWARE OF THE TRAGEDY THAT HAD TRANSPIRED!

OH, NO! **HE IS DEAD!**

Y-YOU **YOU** KILLED HIM, DIVIDI! YOU ARE A MURDERER!

THEN, THE INEXOBABLE WHEELS OF THE LAW BEGAN THEIR TURNING, AND SOON, THE BOY, ASHEN GRAY, SICK INSIDE, TRIED TO BEAR UP UNDER THE ORDEAL BEFORE HIM!



THE MINUTES CONSUMED THE HOURS AND DAYS WITH EXCRUCIATING SLOWING... AND AT LAST THE VERDICT!

FREE THEY SAID! BUT THE BOY FELT NO FREEDOM IN HIS HEART... HAD NO FREEDOM! BEFORE HIM HE SAW A HAND--AN EVIL OFFENDING MEMBER WHO HAD TAKEN A LIFE!

HIS DAZED TORTURED MIND LONGED FOR SLEEP -- BUT HE DARED NOT! SIX HUNDRED MINUTES BETWEEN DARKNESS AND LIGHT! THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND SECONDS OF SILENT, HEART-QUAKING VIGALANCE!
KEEP THE GLOVE ON! KEEP IT ON THAT I NEED NOT FACE THE SHAME OF YOU AND YOUR EVIL!
DIVIDI WILL NOT WEAR... SOB... THE GLOVE! AND I CANNOT TOLERATE THE SIGHT OF HIM! ... SOB...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? NO! PUT THAT DOWN!
THE WEAPON GLEAMED IN THE LIGHT AND ARCED ITS WAY LIKE A STRIKING SERPENT! HE SCREAMED, STRUGGLED, FOUGHT WITH EVERY REMNANT OF WANING STRENGTH!
DIVIDI-- NO! STOP IT! MURDERER!
THEN...
--I--I CAN'T FIGHT ANY LONGER! ... SOB... AND... I DON'T WANT TO! DO YOUR EVIL WORST, DIVIDI!
THE STRUGGLE WAS BRIEF... AND ANTONINI BELLT FELT NOTHING! ALL BUT THE SENSE OF SOUND WERE NUMBED-- ONLY THE TRANQUIL HARMONIES OF HIS MUSIC THAT WOULD LIVE FOREVER!
AND SO OUR STORY ENDS! --AHH! THEY SAY ONE HAND WASHES THE OTHER-- BUT EVEN YOU WOULD NOT RELISH A BLOOD BATH! HA-HA-HA!
THE END

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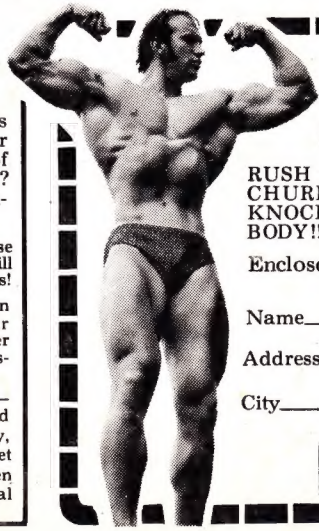

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